**COMMENT, PAGE 23** 



**DOORS SHUT** FOR GWYNETH PALTROW? Ryan Gilbey on the films of the week

THE EYE



ANDREW MARR: **HYPOCRISY** AND MARY BELL **Greed that has made** few sad lives worse

COMMENT, PAGE 23

No 3.599



lewspaper of the Year for photographs

#### Today's news

## Priest jailed for child abuse

A CATHOLIC priest who abused children at an orphanage over an eight-year period in the 1950s and 1960s was jailed for seven years yesterday.

Father Eric Taylor, who abused boys as young as six and then stood by as they were beaten by nuns for complaining, was found guilty of 16 charges of indecent assault and two charges of buggery.

#### Heads attack 'beacon schools'

HEADS and teachers yesterday attacked a new Government scheme for "beacon schools" as divisive, elitist and unnecessary. Some heads also questioned whether those schools not named as beacons would be keen to take up the offer of help from their highflying neighbours.

#### Triple jab cleared

A MAJOR study of children who had the triple MMR vaccine against measles, mumps and rubella has found no evidence of a link with bowel disease and autism. Public confidence in the MMR vaccine was severely dented two months ago when researchers at the Royal Free Hospital, London, published a study of 12 children with bowel disease and autism which suggested there might be a connection with the vaccine.

#### Brown's euro signal

GORDON Brown gave the clearest signal yet that he wants Britain to join the European single currency when he told MPs he would publish a plan this year for Britain to adjust to the start of the euro. Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, and trade minister Lord Simon will head a campaign to highlight the preparations the UK is making for the change-over to the euro

#### Foreigners' assets

The Government yesterday published 25,000 names of foreign nationals and businesses whose money was seized during the Second World War. The money was seized in an attempt to stop Hitler using the assets to fund his war effort. But many of those whose money was seized were themselves victims of the Nazis. Many were Jews who deposited the money in Britain before being sent to concentration camps.

#### Independent award

The Independent has won the Best Use of Photography category at the 1998 Newspaper Awards. This follows the paper being awarded Newspaper of the Year and Black and White Newspaper of the Year for photography in the UK Picture Editors' Guild Awards. To mark these achievements, we have put together a selection of winning images from 1997.

#### Business news

#### **EMI faces takeover**

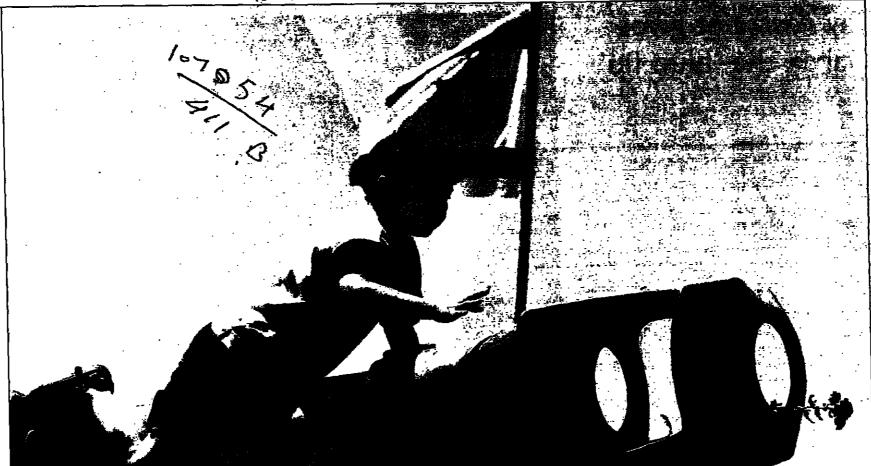
A BIDDING war for EMI was in prospect yesterday after the British music group said that it had received an offer that could lead to a takeover. The offer is thought to have come from Seagram, the Canadian drinks and entertainment group, valuing EMI at £5bn. Page 24

#### Sports news

#### Shearer's denial

ALAN SHEARER, the England captain, has denied kicking s player in the face during Newcastle United's game against Leicester City. Television footage appears to show the Newcastle striker bit Neil Lennon in the face with his boot during Wednesday's Premiership match at Filhert Street.





# Israel celebrates 50 years of survival

A CHILD climbs along a caunon barrel during an Israeli army weapons exhibition at the Gush Etzion settlement yesterday.

Israelis celebrated the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the state with dancing in the streets, fireworks and military demonstrations that included a fly-past by the air force, a naval display and the dropping of paratreopers on Tel Aviv beach.

Ultra-orthodox Israelis objected to a display by modern dancers at the "Jubilee Bells" festivity last night. The dancers were reported to be intending to strip down to their underwear. Palestinians, meanwhile, mourned the loss of their land 50 years ago.

> israel celebrates, page 13 Photograph: AFP

# Whitehall blamed over Bell book

By Ian Burrell

Home Affairs Consespondent

THE controversy surrounding the publication of a book about the child yesterday when Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, revealed that his officials had known about the book project for more than two years.

Mr Straw immediately ordered an inquiry into why the information was not made available to ministers. The Home Secretary is indignant that Bell has been able to make around £50,000 from the book and is urgently looking at the ministers." law to stop other criminals profit-

ing from their crimes in such a way. Whitehall sources said yesterday that if ministers had been told of the

book in March 1996, when officials first learned about it, they could killer Mary Bell developed further have tried to stop the payment. Ann Widdecombe, who was a

Home Office minister with responsibility for prisons when the book deal first became known, said yesterday she was "quite disgusted" that ministers had not been informed. She said: "One cannot have material of that order of magnitude known to officials and probation officers and not known by

Officials became aware of the project to have become public four-year-old son Martin was Bell's

which monitors released life sen-

The unit decided that the book against going ahead with the book. licence and took no action.

were not informed and were thereasked the Permanent Secretary to investigate what happened so we can learn lessons for the future."

Had ministers allowed the book

Service passed information to the Macmillan and author Gitta Sereny Prison Service Lifer Review Unit, would have been under great pressure to withhold the payment to tence prisoners, who remain on Bell. Probation officers may also licence for the rest of their lives. have been asked to advise Bell

current ministers had known about In a statement, Mr Straw said: the project in 1996 they would cer-"I deeply regret that ministers tainly have intervened. "If anything could have been done to stop fore not able to intervene. I have payment that would have been attempted," he said.

Mr Straw issued his statement after a meeting at the Home Office with June Richardson, whose

book when Durham Probation knowledge in 1996, publishers first victim. She demanded Bell hand back the cash she was paid for her help with the book.

Bell and her 14-year-old daugh-

ter have been forced to flee their home on the south coast after being besieged by reporters. Tabloid A Whitehall source said that if newspapers yesterday carried interviews with Bell's boyfriend, who disclosed that the Home Office had known for some time that a book was planned. After the Home Of- of the Times to ask for his comfice was asked to confirm this, an inquiry was launched.

The Press Complaints Com-

payments made to Macmillan by the Times, which is serialising the book, Cries Unheard.

Clause 16 of the newspaper code of practice bans payments to agents or associater of convicted criminals unless there is an overoublic interest

"We received a written complaint from a member of the public and have written to the editor ments." he said.

A decision is expected later today from the Attorney General mission said yesterday that it had John Morris on whether there is launched an inquiry into a possible any means under existing law to breach of its code of practice over block the payments to Bell.

# Move to put violent suspects in 'leg irons'

By Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

HIGH-TECH "leg-irons" could soon be fitted on violent suspects arrested by the police, under plans being considered by chief constables.

Last week, police in Scotland called for the introduction of leg-restraints following concerns about the large number of injuries being caused during struggles in the back of panda cars and vans.

Next month, a police training expert will visit the American state of ouisiana to examine the use of leg-shackles as part of a research project for the Association of Chief Police Officers. Inspector Peter Boatman, of Northandtonshire police, said about 10 per cont of all cases in which force is used takes place in police vehicles.

"It can involving kicking officers, head-butting, biting, kicking windows out, and bashing windows with their heads," he said.

He said he was particularly interested in examining an American restraint device that is made of tough flexible material which is fitted above and below the knees, locking the legs together.

Prisoners are usually fitted with the restraint outside the police vehicle and are then lifted into it by the arresting officers.

was also looking at ways of improving we would be opposed to the routine



American-style leg-irons which could be introduced to Britain

ber of injuries and improved restraint techniques.

Delegates at last week's Scottish Police Federation conference, which represents the rank-and-file officers, voted unanimously for a motion calling for the introduction of leg-restraints to control prisoners displaying symptoms of excited deliri-

um or drug-induced psychosis. Set James Bilsland, of Grampian police, said that "upper body restraint alone is inadequate - cuffs aren't enough ... We require further assistance in the form of lower body restraints. We want to avoid risks for prisoners and our members." And Insp Alian Todd, from Tayside, said a recent survey found that about half of his force's officers who suffered injuries on duty had been kicked

while trying to restrain a suspect.

John Wadham, director of Liberty, the civil and legal rights organisation, cautioned yesterday: The police are entitled to use rea-Insp Boatman stressed that he sonable force to detain people, but vehicle design to reduce the num-use of any kind of restraint."

# Huge car bomb is defused in Northern Ireland

By David McKittrick Ireland Correspondent

THE THREAT of violence dominated the Northern Ireland peace process yesterday as a large republican car bomb was defused in a Co Antrim town amid condemnation of the IRA's refusal to decommission

The car bomb was left in Market Square in the mainly Protestant town of Lisburn. The 600 -700lb device, which was primed and ready to explode, would have devastated the centre of the town.

It was made safe by army bomb disposal experts who carried out three controlled explosions on the vehicle. The initial assumption, while the results of forensic tests are awaited, is that the attempted attack was the work of one of the republican splinter groups, such as the Continuity

IRA, who oppose the peace process.

The reminder of the threat posed by renegades came as the IRA flatly declared, in a statement issued early yesterday, that "there will be no decommissioning". The statement to change the constitution of Sinn Fein to allow members to take their seats in the planned new assembly.

The IRA stance on weapons was criticised from various quarters, though the Government noticeably refrained from asserting in absolute terms that the absence of IRA decommissioning would automatically possible.

exclude Sinn Fein from a new

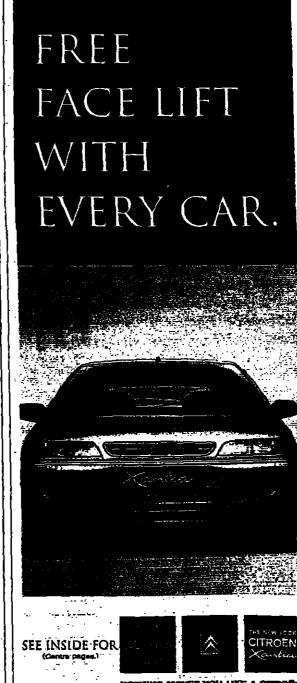
dministration. Ulster Unionist Party leader David Trimble said the statement was, in effect, a rejection of the agreement by "Sinn Fein/IRA". He added: "Things like prisoner release and the opportunity of being involved in the administration of Northern Ireland are not to be made available to them unless they

accept it really must now be peace." A contrasting view was given by David Ervine of the Progressive Unionist Party, which is associated with a loyalist paramilitary grouping. He said some elements of the IRA statement were worrying, with the retention of weapons carrying an implicit threat. But he added: "The IRA are creating stepping-stones away from their republican ideology.

That is extremely significant." Tony Blair, speaking during a visit to Manchester, said: "It has got to -be absolutely clear that people who serve in the government of Northern Ireland have to give up violence, whichever party it is.

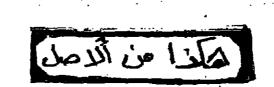
"It is not surprising that the IRA went on to clear the way for a move are saying this at this stage. But this is a package and a whole package and in the referendum people will be voting on the whole package." Former US Senator George

Mitchell, who chaired the talks which led to the agreement, said that paramilitary disarmament in Northem Ireland should begin as soon as



NOVES YOU LIKE A CITRO

INSIDE GUIDE: WEATHER, P2 • CROSSWORDS, P30 AND EYE, P26 • SPORT, P27-30 • TODAY'S TELEVISION, EYE P28 • FULL CONTENTS, P2



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Shiny happy people: the beauty sellers share their secrets MAGAZINE

CONTENTS

Foreign Features Features **Obituaries** Leader & letters Comment Business Unit Trusts Crosswords 32 & The Eye

Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material UK newspapers in the first half of 1997.

# IRA bluntly refuses to give up its guns

IN RECENT years, IRA state- The statement was characteristically oblique - one every point but one - writes David McKittrick ments have often been as delphic as some of Seamus Heaney's cloudier works, de- standard republican the that de- nificant development", the dual liberately entwining hard and commissioning was only ever referendums to be held on 22 soft elements with the intention conceivable in the event of a fi- May do not amount to self-denal settiement. of creating ambiguity.

Yesterday's statement was no exception. The point which at dogged logic in saying that the no decommissioning is to be exfirst sight leaps out of it is the agreement does not amount to pected. blunt assertion on guns: "Let us a settlement, in that this would make it clear there will be no involve "the end of British rule to move on the issue was asdecommissioning by the IRA." in Ireland and the exercise of

Pay restraint gives

Garda the 'blue flu'

dreds of career burglars, car ing out to the people of this

prompted the Dail to hold an rise to offset a widening gap with emergency debate on the crisis. other groups - such as teachers,

are legally barred from taking pay parity. The Government has

flu". The 8,000 rank and file O'Donoghue urged gardai to

morning complaining of painful 10-year-old economic strategy

flat feet preventing them from based on voluntary pay restraint

since the brief "Macushla Re- not part of such national deals.

Garda Commissioner Pat Democratic Left, accused Mr

Byrne announced special con- O'Donoghue of "deliberately

ranks and partly trained cadets crime" while in Opposition.

giving front-line cover. The leading the GRA to believe he

the past, some had hoped that nation". the Good Friday agreement

By Alan Murdoch

THE ANGUISH in Dublin's

Mountjoy Prison this morning

can only be imagined as hun-

thieves and pickpockets wake up

in jail on what could have been

the biggest pay-day of their lives

Ireland's first garda strike.

threatened strike yesterday

Public alarm about the

The country's 11,000 gardai

strike action, so today's pay

spontaneous epidemic of "blue

members of the Garda Repre-

sentative Association (GRA)

will ring in sick from 6am this

It is the first police strike

volt" in 1968, which won the

tingency measures, with senior

Irish Army and defence forces

Commissioner Byrne urged

carrying out their duties.

right to representation.

will be on standby.

protest takes the form of a percent.

The IRA follows its own Although there have been the right of the people of Iresimilar stark declarations in land to national self-determi-

The logic runs that while the

pardai: "Don't do something

that will harm this force for ever more," adding it was "disin-

genuous" of them to report sick

country: that members would

perpetrate a dishonesty. If it is

an individual decision for members of the gardai, I'm saying

"Do the right thing"," he said.

with whom they previously had

offered a productivity-related 7

Justice minister John

work normally, saying that to concede their claim would

undermine the Government's

in return for tax cuts. The GRA

insists it is not a trade union and

exaggerating the extent of

would deliver on their demands.

meet last night.

The GRA executive were to

Liz McManus, justice spokeswoman of the opposition

The GRA seek a 39 per cent

"What signal are you send-

when they were not.

termination and the British presence will remain. Therefore,

While this implacable refusal sailed from various quarters communal endorsement of the yesterday, it is unlikely to be altered in the foreseeable future, partly because the position is in line with the IRA's own the-

sons for maintaining it, one of surance policy against future members should take up their which is that any handover or destruction of weaponry would probably cause uproar, and almost certainly a split, in the ranks of the IRA's foot

The refusal also carries the Belfast Catholic ghettos, such as the Falls Road, where majority opinion, while clearly in favour of the peace process, is just as clearly in favour of hold-

There are also practical rea- ing on to the weapons as an in- comment on whether Sinn Fein calamities.

> to be found across the peace. line in the Protestant Shankill. where loyalist paramilitary, groups and the back streets from which they spring also beliève that maintaining their armouries is the prudent thing to

But the IRA statement is chology. also notable for what it does not say. It studiously avoids direct hold a special conference which to them.

ats in the new Belfast assem-

In doing so it provides implicit endorsement for the direction being saken by Sinn Fein, which appears to be the IRA to be decided upon readying itself for a historic and pronounced upon by us." .

This is presumably to allow arguably, in its general psy-

On 10 May the party is to

will be asked to drop the traditional ban on Sinn Fein members taking their seats in any "partitionist" Belfast assembly, The IRA has just effectively givca its blessing to the change.

The statement also sought to absolve Sinn Fein from heing held responsible for the lack of . arms decommissioning, declaring this to be "a matter only for Sinn Fein leaders to say that any complaints on this score should he referred to the IRA and not



George Mitchell, the peace talks chairman, his wife, Heather, and their six-month-old son, Andrew, on the family's first trip to Ulster Photograph, Reute

# Prison 'turning inmates into heroin addicts'

DRUG use at a prison is so high that inmates who arrive there without an addiction are David Ramsbotham. hooked on heroin when they leave, prisoners told the Chief Inspector of Prisons.

Inmates warned that drug problems were behind a high level of violence at Featherstone jail in Wolverhampton, forcing from prisoners confirmed this

prisoners to carry knives to protect themselves, said Sir

Staff and the board of visitors at the low-security prison believed "there was a considerable amount of drugs within the establishment", he said.

"Anecdotal comments to us

fective programme for dealing with the problem was required," Sir David said in a report published yesterday.

"Many prisoners felt that people came to prisons without a drug problem, but turned to drugs to cope. They then left prison with a heroin habit and

WEATHER

Eastern coasts of Scotland will start cloudy with drizzle

but it will become dry and brighter with some sunshine. The rest of Scotland, along with Northern tretand, Wales, and western England, will have a dry and bright day with some sunny spells. The east of

England with the dull and missly with offizely rain at times and tog towards North Sea coasts. These will be a brisk northerly wind making it leaf rather chilly, especially

where it remains cloudy throughout the day.

Outlook for the next few days On Saluday the low cloud, drizzle and fog that has

been affecting North Sea coasts will clear in Scotland but linger rear some eastern coasts of England.

Elsewhere it will be dry with some decent surrry spells

and only light winds. Most parts will have a fine day on

Sunday but there will be rain and drizzle later in the

north and west of Scotland. This will remain the case

and Northern Ireland but other parts will stay dry.

or Monday with rain in the north and west of Scotland

inevitably came back to prison for a drug-related crime."

Sir David said the Prison Service needed to establish the true level of drug use at the jail, and extend the current strategy of testing and treating inmates for drugs and establishing "drug free" wings for inmates who

wanted to kick their habits.

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**British Isles weather** nnosi noceni avaisione injure at noon nocel time G.cloudy; Cl.clear; F.fair; Fg.fog; Hz.baze; M.Jmist; P.,rain;

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**Bateré** Plymouth Searborough

team that they could buy two "spliffs" of cannabis in exchange for one phonecard.

Mandatory urine testing for drug use had forced many inmates away from other drugs on to heroin, which only stays in the system for a couple of days, while cannabis can be detected

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INDEPENDENT Weatherline
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up to a month after use. Much of the bullying and intimidation at the jail was drug-

related. Sir David said.

"Only when these issues are successfully addressed will it be possible to provide a safe environment," he went on. But staff were failing to

tackle bullying, he said. "There

while bullying was unacceptable, there was virtually nothing that could be done about it." Sir David said that overall Featherstone, which holds 600

inmates, was a "good category C establishment with good relationships between staff and

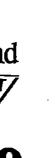


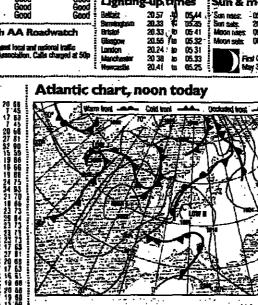
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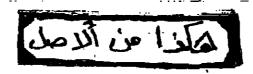


If you see something the size of a man floating out of a Portakabin into the sky. trailing what looks like a box of chocolates, don't worry. Even if it inflates to the size of a detached house, then huists, there is no cause for concern. For this is the new automatic weather balloon made in Finland called Autosonde. which the Met Office is using to monitor conditions at inland locations.

Until now, most of the weather balloons released by the Met Office have been launched from eight coastal sites. For more detailed information about local conditions - particularly where measurements are needed at differing altitudes - the new device will be very helpful. The balloons and weather sampling equipment (known as radiosondes) are loaded into their Portalabins, then at pre-programmed times the balloon inflates, the radiosonde is calibrated then the complete rig is ejected for an

hour-long trip into the atmosphere. They will be launched from eight sites around the country, four times a day at each site. Quite apart from improving the accuracy of weather forecasts, they should keep UFO-spotters entranced for some time.

More data from the Met Office: we have just experienced the wettest April this century, but unless an average of ocm of rain fell over the country in the last 24 hours, the all-time record of 139mm in 1782 still stands. April 1998 was, however, only the fifth time this century that April has been colder than March. It happened before in 1903, 1936, 1957 and 1990.



# Cash to be restored to Jewish victims

By Andrew Buncombe

FOR more than a year Miklos Breuer and his family lived a secret life, hiding from the Nazis block in Budapest.

could barely leave the flat or else we would have been shot because we were Jews," he recalled yesterday. "During many of the bombing raids we had to stay there rather than go to the shelters. And there was also very little food."

In 1939, with the outbreak of Brener's parents had hidden away their assets - £659 - in a London bank. Twenty-one years nouncement follows pressure later, when Mr Breuer, then aged 33, came to London to recover it, he was told by the National Westminster Bank's whose money was seized, using branch in Moorgate that the the documents held within the money had been seized under Public Records Office. Later Trading with the Enemy legis- this year, details of abut 5,000 lation. Since then he has not

Yesterday the names of Mr Breuer's parents, Imre and added to the Government Web-Mariska, were among those of site. 25,000 foreign nationals and businesses, published by the Government, whose money was seized during the Second World about £600m today prices - was

Margaret Beckett, President help people who believe they

£2m has already been set aside with more promised if neces-

Mrs Beckett told the Commons that claims would be conin a fifth-floor flat in a tenement sidered "on the principle that confiscated assets placed in the "It was pretty awful. We UK by victims of Nazi persecution should be returned where practicable and where claims can be validated".

The names, which were published on the Internet, are of people from Germany, Bulgaria, Japan, Hungary and Romania. Many of the names are of people who will now be dead fighting just months away, Mr and claims will have to be made by surviving relatives.

The Government's anfrom the Holocaust Education Trust, which last September revealed the extent of people asset-holders from the former Yugoslavia, the former Czechoslovakia and Poland will be

A total of £367m at pre-war prices was seized by the Government. All but £33m - worth returned after the war.

■ The HET has set up a of the Board of Trade, said the belpline for anyone wanting to names were being published to check if their name or that of a relative is on the list. The numare owed money, to make their ber is 0171 222 5115. The webclaims. A claims procedure is site address for the list is

# Newspapers tarnished by Mary Bell coverage

By Paul McCann Media Editor

THE FOCUS of attention in the Mary Bell case switched onto the behaviour of the national press yesterday, with precious few newspapers, from the qualities to the tabloids, covering themselves in glory.

The tabloids were simultaneously condemning and wooing Mary Bell, not to mention feeding drinks to her boyfriend for a story, while the Times and the Daily Telegraph exchanged letters and leader articles on the rights and wrongs of paying for the book's serialisation rights.

The Press Complaints Commission disclosed that it was conducting an investigation into the Times' £40,000 purchase of Gitta Sereny's book on Ms Bell, Cries Unheard, following a complaint from a member of the public. The investigation may take a mouth to complete.

Peter Stothard, editor of the Times, denied yesterday that money from his newspaper reached Bell. He also maintained that the book was in the public interest. The PCC disclosed that it

had received 30 to 40 complaints from the public about the behaviour of reporters outside Ms Bell's home in a south coast town. Most callers were angry that the journalists' presence had forced Ms Bell to admit her true identity to her 14-year old daughter. They were also angry that the reporter's door-stepping tactics meant the East Sussex Police had to take the pair into protective custody.

The commission is unable to take up complaints about press harassment from third parties because those complaining cannot name the actual newspapers and journalists involved. So far the PCC has had no complaint from Ms Bell.

Mr Stothard denied that the Times carried any responsibil-

THELEXPRESS



The Virror

Bell had endangered her right ters into the Bell home on to privacy by co-operating on the book: "It was like Jack matter. Politicians have legitimised the chase, this hysterical side issue of tracking her down

While tabloid newspapers expressed outrage at a payment made by Ms Sereny to Ms Bell for her co-operation on the book, it emerged that at least ity for the hounding of Ms two Sunday newspapers were very same newspapers who have carried front page interviews ly attacking the Times for doing being established and a fund of www.enemyproperty.gov.uk | Bell. Instead he attacked Jack vying for interviews with her. been screaming the loudest with Ms Bell's 39-year old so. The following day Mr Ms Sereny made to her.

and punishing her."

Straw, the Home Secretary, for Both the News of the World and these last 10 days. The offices are his remark this week that Ms the Mail on Sunday posted let-Wednesday. The News of The World's editor Phil Hall said yes-Straw saying the court order terday: "We haven't offered protecting her identity doesn't her any money. We have offered her a safe berth away from media attention in return for an in-

> But Ms Sereny claimed that some newspapers were offering money which made the payment she had made look "infinitesimal in comparison with the offers she [Bell] has had from the

continuing to come in."

would forbid any payment to Ms that the man was clearly in a dis-Bell because she is a convicted criminal. Newspapers could get around the rule if they could prove there was a public interest in making the payment. Less legitimately, some tabloid newspapers have in the past made payments to close family friends in order to secure interviews without breaking the PCC code.

All of the tabloid newspapers

boyfriend yesterday, but no money changed hands. How-Clause 16 of the PCC's code ever one reporter did confess tressed state.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the newspaper market, both the Times and the Daily Telegraph were trying to make capital out of the story.

Charles Moore, editor of the Daily Telegraph, penned an article for his newspaper on Thesday explaining why he had turned down serialisation rights for the Bell book and implicit-

Stothard returned fire in an article accusing Mr Moore of dropping a £75,000 offer for a book he admired because of fears about what rivals' opinions of the deal, it was he said: "Rejection of principle in return for safety from criticism."

This prompted the unusual response of letter in yesterday's Times from the editor of the Daily Telegraph accusing Stothard of misleading his readers.

And somewhere Mary Bell, in hiding with her 14-year-old daughter, must be considering the value of whatever payment

# The man who broke the ice and entered the history books

At the end of a 600-mile, 57-day journey across creaking ice, David Hempleman-Adams stepped into the history books as the first person to complete the adventurers' grand slam, writes Clare Garner.

The 41-year-old British businessman's conquest of the geographic North Pole made him the only person to have reached all four poles, magnetic and geographic, north and south, and climb the highest peaks in each of the seven continents. His arrival at the top of the world on Tuesday completed an 18-year odyssey that has dominated his life.

He can now look himself in the mirror and answer with a resounding affirmative the question which has goaded him on to greater heights. For it was the words with which Baroness Thatcher's father frequently berated his daughter - "It is easy to be a starter but are you a finisher?" which at times kept him going.

Among the first to congratulate him were to be his wife, Claire, and daughter, Alicia, who yesterday flew out to Resolute Bay, in Canada, to meet him. "I can't wait to see my dad, although I know he will stink. Normally he has a bath before I see him," said Alicia, eight, who was to become the youngest Briton to stand on the North Pole. Mrs Hempleman-Adams, who has not seen her husband since Febmary, said: "I'm extremely pleased for him. All the other expeditions have been relatively successful, but this one has been his Achilles heel. He had several attempts; at last he has done it."

It is 15-years since Mr Hempleman-Adams first set out to beat the North Pole. tional Geographic on the Japanese adventurer Noami Uemura, who made the journey to the geographic North Pole, he endeavoured to walk alone and unsupported to the pole. He abandoned the at-tempt after cracking two ribs. In March 1997, he made a second attempt which was thwarted when his Norwegian companion Rune Gjeldnes's sledge fell to pieces.

On 5 March this year, the pair set out once more. It turned out to be a case of third time lucky. They braved biting winds, blizzards, thin ice, stretches of open

GRAND SLAN The adventured grand slam consists of: the magnetic North Pole in the Arctic Archipeago; the magnetic South Pole off the coast of Antarctica; the geographic North and South Poles at the top and the bottom of the world; Mt McKinley (6, 194m) in North America; Mt Kilimanjaro (5,895m) in Agrica; Mt Everest (8,848m) in Asia at Elbirus (5,642m) in Europe; Vinsin Massif (5,140m) in Antarctica. Mt Aconagua (6,960m) in South America; and who secout for the geographic North Pole in the Australasia. Gjeldnes are the only two to have reached the top of the world.

LONG ROUTE TO THE TOP

It took Mr Hempleman-Adams 18 years to complete the adventurers' grand slam. He began his quest as a holiday mountaineer at the age of 23, fired by the enthusiasm of complete ling a Duke of Edinburgh Gold award.

(6,960m) in South America; and who secout for the geographic North Pole in the top of the world.

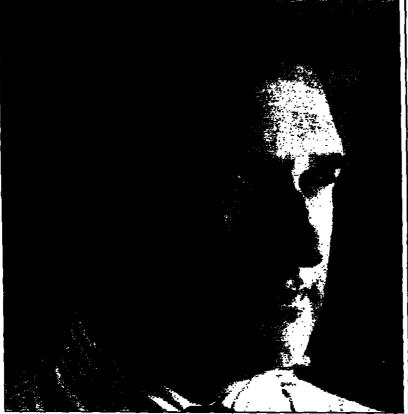
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IN THE NEWS

DAVID HEMPLEMAN-ADAMS



In March 1983, inspired by a report in Na- Adventurer: David Hempleman-Adams has completed his epic journey

water and temperatures down to -80C Alicia, Camilla, three and Amelia, two. (-112F). For comfort they listened to Lou Reed's "Perfect Day" and Van Morrison

Mrs Hempleman-Adams, 35, a solicitor, has never been under any illusions about her husband. While he has been away conquering mountains and ice caps. she has stayed at home in Swindon, Wiltshire, to bring up their three daughters,

Carstensz Pyramid (5,030m) in

She knew from the moment she met him - at 18, in a student bar at Bristol that he would never give up his thirst for adventure. "I never thought he would grow out of it because he is the type of person who has to have something to aim for," she said. "He has set up and sold a successful business, built a house and explored the world. He was one of those people who cannot let life go by. He has to do things. He is a doer as well as a talker."

this year. Mr Hempleman-Adams and Mr. Gjeldnes are the only two to have reached

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# Priest jailed for seven years for abuse at orphanage

By Linus Gregoriadis

A CATHOLIC priest who abused children at an orphanage was jailed for seven years boys were unlikely to complain. yesterday.

Father Eric Taylor, who abused boys as young as six and then stood by as they were beaten by nuns for complaining, yourself. was found guilty of 16 charges of indecent assault and two charges of buggery.

wick Crown Court, Judge Marten Coates told 78-year-old Taylor: "For nearly seven years you were in a position of trust and authority at the home at

These homes had been set up to rescue the most vulnera-

ble people in our society. You told the jury the regime was barsh and boys

were beaten in an unlawful manner. Not only did you do nothing about this, but you knew the fear of receiving such punishment meant that the

Those few who did knew their complaints would not be believed and secure in that knowledge you indulged.

"The lifelong damage you inflicted has been seen during the course of this trial. The trust placed in you, you abused on a daily basis."

During the two-week trial the jury heard of a catalogue of offences at the Father Hudson's home in Coleshill, Warwickshire, between 1957 and 1965.

After the verdict, one jury member left the court in tears as it was revealed that Taylor boys at his vicarage in Worces- by young boys whom he would tershire in 1975

Taylor, of Aston-by-Stone, Staffordshire, was jailed for seven years on the two counts concurrently, on the charges of indecent assault.

Now in their forties and fifties, the 16 victims who helped secure a conviction are only the tip of the iceberg, it is

At least two orphans who were at the home during Taylor's reign committed suicide, lice who have also revealed that 10 more former residents. had come forward since the beginning of the trial.

Victims told how Taylor was revered at the orphanage, by had been previously been fined nuns who admired his status as by magistrates for abusing four a former prisoner of war, and

reward with cigarettes, money

Taylor, who spent four years in a war camp in Austria after of buggery and five years, to run being captured while serving with the Royal Navy during the Second World War, arrived at the home in 1957 after being and ongoing support as approordained three years earlier. priate to those concerned."

He would prey on young boys as they slept in their dormitories, the court heard.

Nuns at the orphanage would beat those who complained with belts, canes, wet rags and straps, it emerged, and people who complained about Taylor's activities would be

Taylor, who denied all the charges, was found not guilty of "like a Pied Piper" who was two further charges of buggery and one charge of indecent

Church last night apologised to the priests' victims. A joint statement issued by the Father Hudson Society and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham, read: "We deeply regret the effect of Father Taylor's actions and will offer counselling

The Father Hudson Society homes since 1984 but runs a range of services including adoption, fostering, residential and day care for older people and those with disabilities.

Judge Coates told Taylor: "The boys came from all walks of life. You are a disgrace to your cloth and the church you proclaim. Your victims were not only young but they were helpless, you were the nearest



thing they had to a father Eric Taylor arriving at Warwick Crown Court yesterday. The judge told him: You are a disgrace to your cloth and the church you proclaim'

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#### Football fans held in raids

FOUR people were charged last night with public order offences after officers mounted dawn raids on suspected football hooligans. Another eight people are also expected to be charged. Kent Police said the raids on addresses in Kent, southeast London and Surrey followed violence at the Second Division match between Gillingham and Fulham last month which left one fan dead. Eurostar train tickets to France during the World Cup were also seized in the operation.

The men were arrested as part of a continuing inquiry into the killing of Fulham fan Matthew Fox, 24, from Purley, south London, near Gillingham's stadium on 28 March. They are due to appear before Medway magistrates in Kent on 26 May. One man has already appeared in court charged with murdering Mr Fox outside the ground during clashes between groups of rival fans.

#### Mardi Gra charges

TWO brothers accused in connection with the string of Mardi Gra bombings appeared in court yesterday. Ronald Russell Pearce and Edgar Eugene Pearce are each charged with conspiring to possess home-made firearms with intent to endanger life, conspiring to blackmail Barclays Bank and also conspiring to blackmail Sainsbury.

Ronald Pearce, 66, retired, from Chiswick, west London, was remanded in custody until 7 May when he appeared before Horseferry Road magistrates' court in central London. His 60-year-old unemployed brother, also from Chiswick, was remanded in police custody for further questioning for 48 hours. He is to reappear at Bow Street magistrates court tomorrow. Yesterday's court appearance follows a police investigation into 36 attacks since December 1994, mainly against branches of Barclays and Sainsbury in South-east England

## Tube strike goes ahead

GUARDS on London Underground's Northern Line are due to strike today and on Tuesday after last-minute talks aimed at resolving a jobs dispute ended in failure. Members of the Rail Maritime and Transport union have already staged two walkouts in recent weeks in a row over the treatment of displaced guards. The union said guards who have to change jobs because of the introduction of driver-only operated Tube trains could have to travel up to four hours to a new job.



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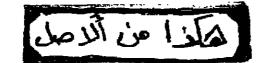
The Open University Postgraduate Certificate in Education won a 1996 Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education. The programme features:

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## Camping out

The latest buzz word inside the upper echelons of the Government has a certain fairground flair. The phrase is "big tent" as in "there's room enough in here for everyone, left and right, young and old". The phrase has, like so much of New Labour's political gadgetry, been imported from America. On Wednesday night, the "tent" was billowing at press officer Tim Allan's leaving party in 10 Downing Street. Thus there was room for both Rachel Whetstone, the former special adviser to Tory Michael Howard, and Jane Bonham-Carter, the former director of communications for the Liberal Democrats, plus all the predictable Labour faces. The evening's high point came when the Prime Minster delivered a speech that teased Allan about some of the less flattering press stories that he had supposedly arranged. Pandora should caution the Labour spin doctors, however, before they start flinging the "big tent" buzz word around too recklessly. There is a popular old Australian slander which has also reached our shores, as in Julian Clary is as "camp as a row of tents."

#### **Desert stories**

While we are on the subject of tents, the author of a new book entitled Escape to Hell and Other Stories composed all his fiction in a "writing tent" in the Libyan desert. Yes, Colonel Gaddafi has just brought out a new inspirational book in which people who live in cities are called "snails", "worms" and "rats". "Depart the city and flee to the village," Gaddafi urges his readers, as if he is still living the nightmare of American bombers targeting his palaces in Tripoli. Still, nothing Gaddafi writes is as odd as the book's preface by American Pierre Salinger, who was once JFK's press secretary and more recently has been running a campaign to convince the world that the TWA 800 was blown out of the sky by an errant US missile. According to Salinger, Gaddafi has abandoned his support for terrorism and is now as gentle as a lamb. Yes, and rats can fly.

#### Dummie speaks up

What a freakish resemblance there is between our Leader of the Opposition and Chuck, the dummy of American ventriloquist David Strassman, who has made a name for him-





self by insulting Prince Charles and even banishing his human master from the stage and performing solo. "Chuck challenges authority," says Strassman. "That's a fantasy we all have." Surely William Hague could not have put it any more

### A change from nightwear

Hugh Hefner, founder of Playboy, has finally been elected to the American Society of Magazine Editors' Hall of Fame. Pandora can't imagine why it took this long for Hef to reach this gleaming pinnacle of recognition. But the great man, "bunny" merchant and author whose finest hour stretched into years as he penned his interminable "Playboy Philosophy", was very gracious in his acceptance speech. "It takes something special to get me out of my pyjamas," he told his fellow editors. "And this is special."

# I'm sorry, I'll say that again

Most people who saw Boris Johnson on last week's Have I Got News For You thought he acquitted himself remarkably well in the face of an embarrassing verbal offensive from lan Hislop and Paul Merton. However, it does seem rather churlish of Johnson to reveal in the latest Speciator that most of the amusing "ad libs" in the highly successful programme are scripted in advance. Indeed Johnson compares his revelation to the Van Doren TV quiz show scandal that shocked America in the Fifties. "The whole thing is a fix" writes Johnson about HIGNFY, including the fact that Angus Deayton is given the opportunity of repeating his lines over and over in front of a prompted audience until he gets them right. Frankly, Pandora cannot believe there is a single viewer over the age of 12 who ever believed this "quiz" was anything but a satirical stitch-up. Or are Specuator readers remark-

Pandora

# DAILY POEM

#### At Kensal Green Cemetery

By Peter Bland

teach in

Schools

gh study

Australia (2017)

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No joke, this weight of stone, these gothic monoliths with granite scrolls clerics and Raj-men. Victorian bosses: in tombs as magnificent as their homes. in ionus us mugnificen as weir nomes.
Good neighbours all (one race and blood)
sceure in their Englishness even in death
poets no one ever reads generals who'll never relax their sap.

And these

in an open paich of curt next to the main road, for from sheltering trees - Mr Rajneesh, Culspso Pete, Harry the Greek, Armenian Joe. with wedding photos in plastic bags and flowers in cans among gravel chips that rattle like seeds as lorries pass.

This poem comes from Peter Bland's new volume of Selected Prems (Carcanet, £9.05). Born in Scarborough in 1934, Peter Bland spent two decades working in New Zealand, the setting. for much of his work.

# Woman's murder appeal rejected

By Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

A WOMAN convicted of murdering her former lover by poisoning him with arsenic after he allegedly abused her for 12 years had her appeal against a life sentence rejected yesterday.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the attempt by Zoora Shah to have her murder conviction reduced to manslaughter or to have a retrial.

There were screams and cries of "no" from Shab's daughters in the public gallery at the London court as the judges announced the decision.

Women's campaign groups had adopted the case as a further example of a woman driven to kill because of violence, intimidation or sexual abuse by a husband or partner. They described the decision as a major setback in the fight against domestic violence.

Shah, a mother-of-three who had been abandoned by her husband, was convicted of the murder in 1992 of businessman Mohammed Azam, 47. She had arrived in England from Pakistan for an arranged marriage as a teenager, but her husband abused and left her and she was befriended by Mr Azam.

The prosecution claimed she killed Mr Azam, brother of one of Bradford's most prominent Muslim leaders, out of greed so she could take over his



Britain for 23 years to involve arsenic, Shah pleaded not guilty and declined to give evidence.

At her appeal, however, she admitted twice poisoning married Mr Azam and claimed she did not initially tell the truth because of shame at the sexual and physical abuse she says she suffered at his hands. She claims she gave him a large dose of arsenic, bought in Pakistan, after her husband allegedly took a sexual interest in her daughters.

Her barrister Edward At her trial, the first in Fitzgerald, QC, argued that

new evidence showed that Shah, who is in her mid-40s, suffered from depressive illness and was not in full control of her actions. He said the conviction was unsafe and should be set

aside with a retrial ordered.

Giving judgment yesterday, Lord Justice Kennedy, Mr Justice Butterfield and Mr Justice Richards dismissed Shah's application for leave to appeal against the life sentence handed down at Leeds Crown Court in December 1993.

Lord Justice Kennedy said

they found Shah "a most unsatisfactory witness, and her evidence to be not capable of belief".

He said that despite claims of abuse for many years, apart from a black eye, no one, including friends, doctors and the police, had reported any injuries or had heard complaints from Shah.

who had seen Shah on two occasions - one of them just before her trial - said that deliberate fatal poisoning of

with significant clinical depression. Evidence from other psychiatrists provided mixed conclusions. The judges ruled that it was

"not necessary or expedient in the interests of justice" to receive the fresh evidence and. without that further evidence, Shah's appeal against conviction A consultant psychiatrist, must fail. They also refused leave to appeal to the House of

> After the hearing Shah's daughter Naseem, 24, said the their racial and cultural origins."

There's a Great Deal going on

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Women's rights campaigners protesting outside the High Court vesterday in support of Zoora Shah (above) Photograph: James Horton

family felt "total devastation" at the outcome. She added: "I have spoken to her lawyers and she is bearing up as well as possible." Asked about her feelings about British justice, she commented: "It stinks. It is unfair and it is unjust."

The campaigning group, Southall Black Sisters, which has fought for Shah's release, said: "We are very saddened and angry at today's judgment. It is a setback for all women who suffer domestic violence whatever

# **Driver** averts train disaster

By Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

HUNDREDS of passengers on two trains had a narrow escape yesterday after the commuter services stopped within six feet station.

Only the actions of a quickthinking driver of a packed rush-hour train from Margate to Cannon Street ensured that no accident occurred.

He was forced to hit the brakes when he realised he was on a collision course with another train bound for west London which was just leaving on the same track a few minutes before 9am.

A crash was averted but in the process one coach on the outbound train - leaving for Hayes - came off the track. Both trains involved were operating on Connex South Eastern routes.

Railtrack - which owns stations and track - insisted both trains were travelling "very slowly - at the most 15mph". "Our information is that there were no injuries," said a spokeswoman for the company. There were no reports of casualties.

An investigation was launched immediately by the safety authorities, the train company and Railtrack.

Early reports suggested that one train had "jumped a signal" were denied by Railtrack. "It will one of the things that

will be looked at by the investigators," said a spokesman for Railtrack. The incident caused long delays with services being severe-

ly disrupted right into the evening rush-bour as engineers worked to get the derailed train back on track. For most of the day, services ran out of London Bridge station rather than Cannon Street

running between the two termini. Yesterday's near-miss brought back memories of a serious accident at the station in January 1991, when a packed commuter train smashed into the buffers. Two people were

- with special shuttle trains

killed and hundreds injured. ■ The Health and Safety Executive yesterday published its official report into the crash in August 1996 at Watford, Hertfordshire, in which a woman passenger was killed.

The report concluded that the the primary cause of the crash was a driver going through a red signal, and the executive urged Railtrack to examine thoroughly the question of trains passing stop sig-

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# Superschools are élitist and divisive, warn teachers

By Judith Judd **Education Editor** 

HEADS and teachers yesterday attacked a new government parental interview. There is a scheme for beacon schools as divisive, élitist and ennecessary.

Some heads questioned whether schools not named as cial secondary moderns." beacons would be keen to take high-flying neighbours.

standards minister, announced £1.8m for 100 beacon schools which will spread good practice by training teachers and helping nearby schools improve their performance. They will be chosen from schools which have received exceptional praise from Ofsted inspectors.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters come beacon schools. Union of Women Teachers, said there was a danger that they £50,000 to release good teach-

would want to send their children there and heads would resort to selecting pupils by danger that beacon schools will become the new social grammar services. schools, and the rest the new so-

up the offer of help from their not to create an élite but to spread excellence. "These Stephen Byers, the schools schools have already been identified as performing very well. Parents know that. What we want to do is to help all schools perform at this high level."

conference in London for 176 schools named for their outstanding performance in the annual report by Chris Woodhead, chief inspector of schools, All will be asked to volunteer to be-

They will be given up to would produce more social se- ers to help visiting or new jokes in the pub."

lection because most parents teachers on issues such as literacy, truancy and improving GCSE results.

But some heads questioned whether there would be much enthusiasm for beacon schools'

Martin Roberts, head of the Cherwell School, one of Ox-Mr Byers said the aim was fordshire's most successful comprehensives, which is to be inspected next spring and which is not among the 176, argued that the judgement of Ofsted where the children all arrive in and Chris Woodhead should not Rolls-Royces? There is a credbe taken too seriously. "A beacon school is going to

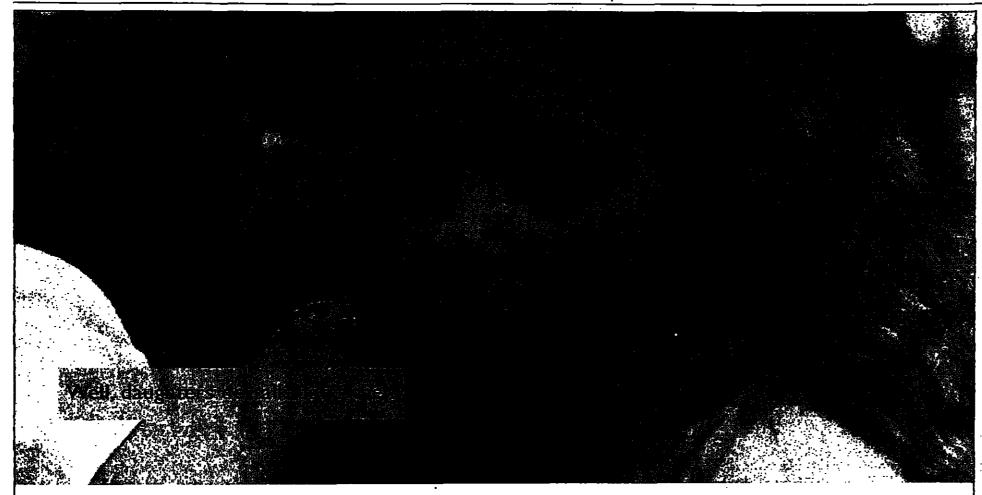
He explained the plans at a be only marginally better than other schools. I would be very surprised if most schools and governors felt that anything very significant could be learned by whizzing off to see what they are doing in another school. For most schools I doubt whether a beacon school is going to amount to more than a few

Alan Symmonds, head of Newbiggin Middle School in Newbiggin, Northumberland, an area with high unemployment in a county with many small country schools, said he was always willing to learn from good practice but questioned whether it would translate from one area to another, "Would I say to my teachers in a difficult area that they might learn

ibility problem." The first beacon schools will start hits autumn and their status will last for three years. They will agree contracts with the Government which will specify their particular strengths.

Mr Byers said: We believe that a network of beacon schools shining forth across the country will show the way forward and raise standards for everyone."





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# **Pupils face** new mental maths tests

By Ben Russell Education Correspondent

MORE THAN a million children across Britain will face tough national tests of their mental arithmetic for the first time next week. New grammar tests for 14- year-olds are also being piloted in a move which will please traditionalists.

The 20 minute maths tests, to be sat by all 11- and 14-yearolds on Tuesday, will be the first national assessment of children's ability to deal with numbers without the aid of pencil and paper. The tests, which were piloted last year, give children five, 10, or 15 seconds to answer each question on a tape sent to all schools.

year-olds, being sent to a sam- spelling, grammar and punctuple of schools, will separate ation. The new writing tests give reading and writing to place children a series of tasks, such more emphasis on traditional grammar.

Dr Nick Tate, chief executive of the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, which administers the tests, also announced a crackdown on exam fraud after a handful of schools were found to have broken the rules on testing last year.

This year schools will be subject to spot checks to ensure the exams are being properly administered. Officials will check around 2,000 schools, but officials insisted that only a handful of complaints had been received.

Dr Tate said: "There was very little evidence of abuse last year. But in so far as there were some cases, this undermines the credibility of tests and it was important to take this decisive action."

Most allegations came from other schools which suspected their neighbours of malpractice. But out of 20,000 schools only 30 reached the stage of a formal complaint to the QCA. Of those, 10 cases of malpractice were substantiated.

About 1.8 million pupils will be taking national tests for seven, 11 and 14-year-olds over the next two weeks. Seven-yearolds will sit tests in maths and English, while 11- and 14-yearolds will be tested in maths, English and science. Teachers will also have to assess pupils in other subjects, like foreign languages, history and geography...

The new grammar tests were launched after an analysis of last year's English results found New English tests for 14- fundamental problems with as writing a letter or writing a third person report of spoken English, designed to test whether youngsters can use reported speech, deal with tenses, punctuate correctly or use the third person.

Reading tests will test comprehension, as well as requiring children to comment on sentence structure.

Voluntary tests for eight, nine and 10 year olds have also been sent to schools. Officials said around 90 per cent of schools were expected to take them up.

Results from a sample of 10,000 test results will be used to create a survey of national standards. Officials said there were no plans to make the voluntary tests compulsory.

#### TEN TO PUZZLE OVER

These are the sort of questions 14-year-olds will have to answe (Times in brackets show how long pupils re given to answer)

A television programme starts at ten minutes to severe it lasts 25 minutes. At what time does the programme finish (10 seconds)

■ Subtract 100 from 6,003 (10 seconds) ■ What is one quarter of 32? (10 seconds)

What is the cost of five cassettes at £1.99 each? ( A bag of oranges costs £1.49. How many bags could you buy with £10? (15 seconds)

Multiply 3.06 by 1,000 (10 seconds) Multiply 0.2 by 30 (10 seconds)

A square has a perimeter of 20 metres. What i the square? (15 seconds)

The price of a boat ticket goes up from £5 to £\$5. What is the percentage increase? (15 seconds) Thirteen out of 20 people had brown eyes. Whi of people had brown eyes? (10 seconds)

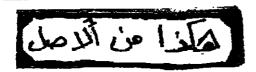
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# i face nenta s testi

# Auditors get new powers to study royals' spending

By Fran Abrams Political Correspondent

GOVERNMENT spending watchdogs are to be given increased access to the royal accounts, it was announced last

In future the National Augrants for Royal Palaces and will receive an annual grant of £15.8m this year, while Royal Transport cost the public purse £2m in 1996-97.

The Department of Media, and the officials of the Royal Culture and Sport has reluctantly agreed to more open access under pressure from the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee.

The committee had complained that it had no open acprevented full scrutiny of how has been a rather deferential

One member, the Labour MP Alan Williams, had been refused information on subsidised accommodation for royal employees and pensioners.

Although Sir John Bourn. who heads the NAO, will still have to ask the department for dit Office will be able to exam- the information he wants, it is ine accounts on how public expected that in future he will always receive it. Yesterday Sir transport are spent. The palaces 

John described the announcement as "important and welcome." He said: "I look forward to a close working relationship with the relevant department

> Household." Mr Williams also declared himself happy with the agreement, though he added that there was still no access to details of the Civil List.

"This is a much more posicess to the books and that this tive position. In the past there

ers' money," he said. David Davis, the committee chairman and Conservative MP for Haltemprice and Howden. said there should be transparency and accountability wherever taxpayers' money was

view of the Palace instead of a

recognition that this is tax-pay-

"With the new arrangements the public will be able to have confidence that their money is being spent efficiently and wise-

The committee has also asked for open access to the accounts of Camelot, the firm which runs the National Lottery. of housing associations and on It's a funny old world: Friends gather to pay tribute to the creator of 'Dear Bill'



John Bird and Jonathan Miller at the memorial service for the satirist John Wells at St Paul's Church, Covent Garden

# Forest sales under fire

By Anthony Bevins

THE Forestry Commission is criticised today for the way it sold off 66,000 hectares of prop- of land approved for housing deerty - a year after the new Government bolted the gate on further large-scale sales.

Audit Office said that the com- commission's objectives". mission had "not completely" established sound strategies for with a 1.1m-hectare estate, selecting forests for disposal, or worth £1.56bn, of which 850,000 assessed the costs and benefits of disposal decisions.

It also criticised the comprivatisation decisions to local offices, saying it risked missing future Government action. "opportunities to maximise efficiency savings arising from suggest Tory ministers gave the rationalisation of the forest commission conflicting instrucestate at a national level".

report whether Sir John Bourn, ing public access to some of the the Comptroller and Auditor forest land that was sold off. General, felt the blame lay with State for Scotland who ordered sation order, suggesting that it

Sales were suspended on 19 March 1997, with the calling of told by the commission that they the last general election, by which time the commission had sold off 65,674 hectares and

Since the election, the com- ministerial directions. mission planned to raise £20m from the completion of sales that were in the pipeline when the election was called, but the new Government has since im- complex conveyancing of leases posed a moratorium on further and enforcing lease conditions, large-scale forest sales, in line with its manifesto commitment.

This year, the commission

hopes to raise another £25m from a sale of surplus assets, mostly "from the previously agreed surrender of leasehold interest in a relatively small piece velopment, with the balance from sale of buildings, bare land and small isolated blocks of for-A report from the National est which contribute little to the

That leaves the commission hectares are planted with trees. But as further large-scale sales from that estate are now blocked mission's decision to delegate by the Government, today's report will have no bearing on any

However, the report does tions, which meant that there But it was not clear from the was a difficulty over maintain-

The commission took legal the commission or Malcolm advice in April 1989, before Mr Rifkind, the former Secretary of Rifkind issued his final privatia 100,000-hectare privatisation could grant leases on land, with in 1989 in the hope of raising enforceable conditions requiring £150m by the end of the century. tenants to allow public access.

But Sir John's auditors were had no alternative but to make freehold sales. "They told us that they needed to sell the freeraised £75m of the £150m target. hold in order to comply with

"They also considered that the costs associated with retaining management responsibility for leased land, undertaking would not lead to the efficiency benefits expected from rationalisation being achieved."

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## Fury over paedophile's escape

ANTI-paedophile campaigners reacted anguly yesterday after a convicted child-sex offender escaped on an escorted

visit to a swimming pool.

David Marker, 62, has been held in secure hospitals since 1965 after he was convided of indecent assault, thought to be on a seven-year-old girl. But he is now on the loose after sipping away from two guards at Abraham Moss leisure centre i Crumpsall. Manchester of

The trip was part of a rehabilitation programme preparing him to be released back into the

The Department of Health said a Mental Healt stribunal could fall prey to this man."

had sanctioned his conditional discharge after hearing evidence that he represented no danger to the public. But Julie Roberts from Para-

sol, a group campaigning for stricter anti-paedophile laws, said the situation was a "farce". It is an absolute disgrace they were even thinking of let-

ting him out ... "Anybody, male or female, that has abused a child should be locked away for good."

Peter Garsden, from Man hester-based paedophile monoring group Abuse Watch, sad: "We are extremely conped for the parents of any in the community that



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# **Brown** paves the way for the euro

By Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

GORDON BROWN yesterday gave the clearest signal so the European single currency when he told MPs he will publish a national change-over plan this year for Britain to adjust to the start of the euro.

Underlining the Treasury's support for the euro, Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade, and trade minister Lord Simon are to head a campaign called Britain Preparing for Europe to highlight the preparations the UK is making for the changeover to the euro from 1999.

Although Britain will not join in the first wave, Mr Brown left no doubt in the Commons that he is keen to do so, while keeping to the formula agreed with Tony Blair last year, for Britain's entry after 1999 providing joining the euro is in Britain's economic interests and there is agreement in the Cabinet, in Parliament, and a "yes" vote in a referen-

In the meantime, he told MPs he would not let Britain be started.

"I am determined to ensure that Britain will continue to be things like the creation of jobs the best place in Europe to develop business opportunities after 1999," he said.

"In or out of the euro, preparing for the introduction of the euro is of vital importance. The Government is working closely with business to ensure that when the euro arrives in 1999, business will be able to use it in the UK from

1999." Mr Brown added. Firms will be able to use the

euro in dealing in company accounts, in company taxes and the UK banking system. Local and national businesses as well as international financial marfar that he wants Britain to join kets will be able to trade in the euro in the UK, he said.

> The drive to the euro will be stepped up today when Britain will vote in favour of the establishment of the euro by 11 European countries, led by France and Germany, at a European finance ministers (Ecofin) council, which the Chancellor will chair, in

The European finance ministers will also agree a detailed timetable for the introduction of tax and spending rules for the I I countries who are to join the euro to reinforce the stability pact for the single currency.

Britain will emphasise the need for strict policing of the disciplinary rules, which includes automatic fines on countries with excessive debts, but it will go further by backing economic reform.

Treasury sources said the Chancellor was pleased with the shift to the agenda for job creation inside Ecofin. "A year ago we were arguing about whether left behind when the euro is the euro was going to be round, square or triangular.

"Now they are talking about and the economic environment, which we have been campaigning for since we arrived," said

In complete contrast to Mr Brown, Peter Lilley, the Conservative spokesman on Treasury affairs, warned against Britain supporting the launch of a soft euro currency "pushing the pound even higher, hitting exports even harder and driving manufacturing into recession".



New Labour, new blood: Margaret McDonagh (left), who is set to become Labour's first woman general secretary

Photograph: John Voos

# Sawyer makes way for new generation

Political Correspondent

LABOUR is set to appoint its first woman general secretary after the resignation yesterday of its general secretary, Tom

The announcement that Mr Sawyer was to step down after four years and the likelihood that he will be replaced by his deputy, Margaret Mc-Donagh, mark another symbolic step for the new Labour hierarchy.

Although Mr Sawyer has been a loyal general secretary, he came originally from a trade union background and was at one stage regarded as left wing.

Ms McDonagh, who is 36, is seen as new Labour to the me to move on. core even though she was at one time a researcher for the

In a statement yesterday Mr Sawyer said that the party needed a new generation of officials to win a second term for

electricians' union.

It is thought likely that Mr Sawyer will be made a life peer. He said he had made it clear when he became general secretary that he would resign after the general election.

"I have beloed with the transition from opposition to government, moved our headquarters to Milibank and introduced a new management structure for the party," Mr Sawyer said.

"This is the right time for

Mr Sawyer will place his resignation before the Labour Party's National Executive Committee at its meeting on

A former trade union leader, he became general secretary in 1994 at Tony Blair's request.

Last night Mr Blair described him as "one of the finest general secretaries in the party's history."

"He has been a loyal colleague and friend. I shall miss his advice and judgement, but I know he will put his considerable skills and qualities to good use in other roles for many years to come."

Mr Sawyer, 54, came to his working life as an appren-



Tom Sawyer: Is thought likely to be made a life peer

Labour Party politics through the trade union movement. He joined in 1968 after beginning

tice engineer in Darlington. Later he became a full-time organiser with the public sector union Nupe, then moving to London as deputy general secretary under Rodney Bick-

In 1987, he became chair of Labour's home policy com-mittee, and by 1990 was chair of the party.

He was involved in the expulsion of Militant from Labour and supported John Smith's highly controversial reforms on one-member one-

Mr Sawyer still has six months' notice to work out. Party officials expect him to stay in post until after this year's annual conference in

# poll fund to £2m says Bell

ELECTION spending by each political party should be limit: ed to f2m - about a tenth of what Labour and the Tories spent last year - the independent MP Martin Bell and vesterday, writes Fran Abrams. ...

Mr Bell told the Neill inquiry into political funding that denations should be limited in £20,000 to end an "arms race" of political spending.

"I trust that the necessary reforms will take account of the little platoons as well as the big battalions," said the MP, who defeated the former Conservative MP Neil Hamilton at Tatton last May.
Mr Bell said small donations

helped to enhance the democratic process by getting people involved, while large donors were often trying to buy access. to the decision-making process.

In his own campaign he had limited donations to £100 each. he said and in some cases he had to return larger payments.

"On the first day I received two cheques for £4,300 addressed to me personally. I could have gone off to the Bahamas there and then. But I sent them back and later received two cheques for £100," he said.

"I got a contribution of £1 from a nine-year-old boy. That boy was putting his faith in me, and I think that's very helpful to the democratic process," he said.

There was no difficulty in raising the £8,000 election expenses. "People were sending me money and I didn't want it. We put it in a separate account and at the end of my term it will be distributed to local charities."

After the election, it was revealed that Mr Bell's legal expenses of £9,400 had been paid by Labour and the Liberal Democrats. He said he had assumed the advice was given free, but when the payment became public he paid the bill himself.

The committee also heard claims by the BBC journalist Michael Crick that Labour might have spent as much as £250,000 in winning last year's Wirral South by-election.



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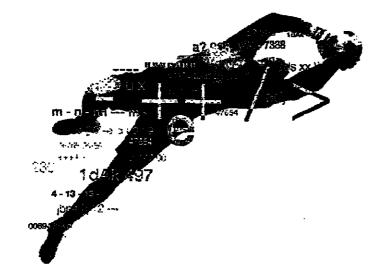
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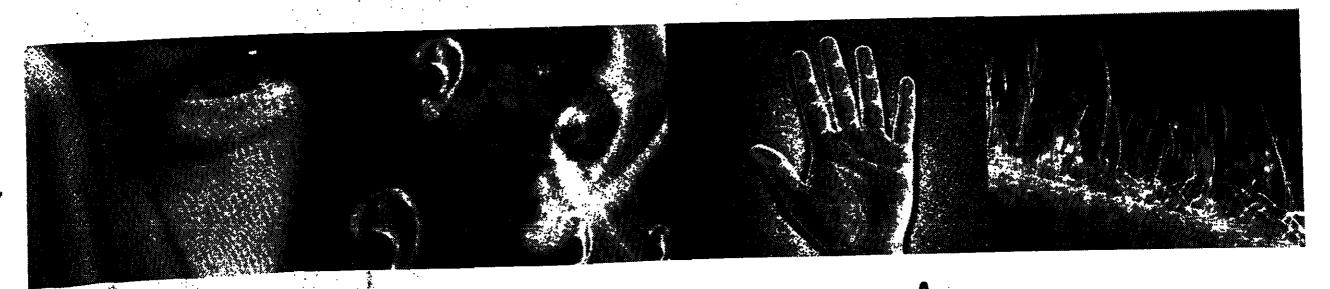
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By Kate Watson-Smyth

A FIRST edition copy of Chancer's Conterbury Tales, the first book to be printed in England, is expected to raise at least £500,000 when it is auctioned in July.

The book was printed in 1477 by William Caxton at his workshop in Westminster Abbey and only 12 copies are known to exist.

This edition is the last remaining copy in private hands and was acquired by William, 4th Earl Fitzwilliam at an auction of books at Christie's in March 1776.

It will be auctioned with other books and works of art belonging to the trustees of Olive, Countess Fitzwilliam, of Wentworth Woodhouse, Yorkshire.

The collection was started by Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford, who died in 1641, century.

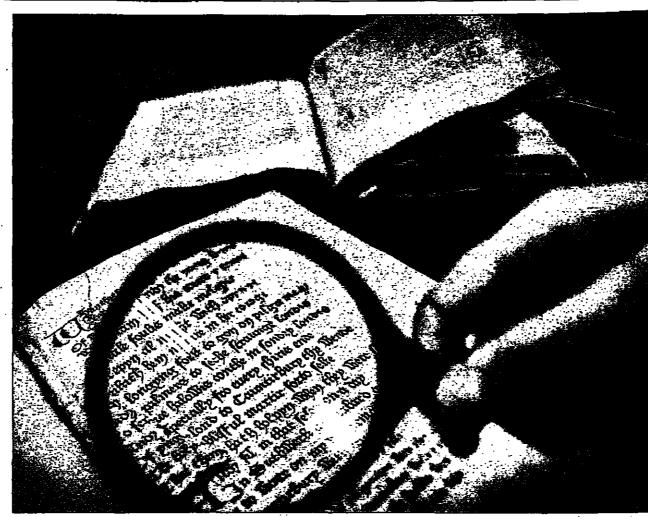
and added to by his descendants. Christie's, which is handling the auction, said it was one of the country's most important collections.

The sale includes a painting by Stubbs and a Van Dyck portrait which is expected to fetch around £3m.

Lord Hindlip, the chairman of Christie's said: "This is one of the most important collections of works of art to be offered at auction since the celebrated sales of works of art from Houghton in 1994 and from the Bute family collection in 1996.

"The proceeds of the sale will protect the future of the family and the remainder of the collection, one of the most important in private hands in this country."

The Wentworth family has had the land at Wentworth Woodhouse since the 13th



# Lawrence witness ignored for 5 years

A VITAL witness to the murder of Stephen Lawrence was not asked to provide an artist's impression of his attackers for five vears, he said yesterday.

He was amazed to receive a telephone call from the police last month asking him to do an E-fit - a computer-enhanced impression.

But Roy Westbrook told the public inquiry into Stephen Lawrence's death that, after speaking to an expert at Scotland Yard, he was told it was too late to be any good.

Mr Westbrook said he was old his description was now likely to be "recognition rather than recollection".

He said he was not approached in 1993 when he saw a gang of white youths stab the black 18-year-old student near a bus stop in Eltham, south London.

But a few hours after being told he would be needed as a witness to the public inquiry in London, Mr Westbrook, a support worker for people with learning difficulties, said he had a number of messages about à photofit on his answering machine.

"I found it very puzzling" he told the inquiry in south London. "I spoke to someone at Scotland Yard about it and was told it would be recognition rather than recollection. It was far too late."

Mr Westbrook said he saw Stephen Lawrence and his friend Dowane Brooks being chased along the road by a group of white youths. They surrounded Stephen

and attacked him. "He was swallowed up by the

weight of the boys and forced to the ground," he added.

A man standing at the bus stop had commented that "he got a good pasting, didn't he? Tuesday.

Lawrence: Photofit 'too late' It was probably because he was

He was later asked to go to identity parades but left after

waiting at the police station for nine hours. He and other witnesses had been left for long periods to talk to each other and a woman became flustered after being

asked for her address. Another witness, Joseph Shepherd, the inquiry was told, went to one identity parade but had refused to do any others after an inspector called out his

Inspector Laurence Slone said he used the name to identify the witness. He said: "It was behind closed doors and it was in a conversational voice. If the suspect did hear the name,

then I regret that." No one has been convicted of Stephen Lawrence's murder. Neil Acourt, 21, Gary Dobson, 21, and Luke Knight, 20, were cleared of the murder at the Old Bailey in 1996. The case against David Norris, 20, and Jamie Acourt, 19, never came to trial.

The inquiry will sit again on

# Ministers in rift over Dounreay nuclear shipment

By Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

MARGARET Beckett and Robin Cook were involved in a furious row before the Government agreed to accept a five-kilogram shipment of enriched uranium from Georgia for reprocessing and disposal at the Dourreay plant in Scotland,

it emerged last night. The disclosure of a ministerial split undermined the attempts by Downing Street to smooth over the secret deal between Tony Blair and US President Bill Clinton for Britain to take the shipment to avert the risk of it falling into wrong hands.

The President of the Board of Trade and the "green" minister at the Department of Trade and Industry, John Battle, blocked on "at least a dozen occasions" plans to ship enriched uranium for reprocessing, it was confirmed by Whitehall sources.

"Margaret and John took a very principled stand on this one. We were fed up with the Foreign Office saying: "We are the ones with an ethical foreign policy and the DTI is unethical," one senior source said.

The disclosure that the two ministers refused to sanction the shipment - which took place without incident seven days ago - is likely to strengthen protests in Scotland over the decision to accept shipments from the former Soviet republic.

It emerged yesterday that the deal came close to collapse. Senior DTI figures were angry at what they saw as both an attempt to pass the buck and "ethical posturing" by the Foreign Office.

After being first raised in late summer, the proposal was not agreed by DTI ministers until shortly before the turn of

The ministers eventually agreed to sign the licence only on condition that the Foreign Office would take any political

flak from the announcement. Questions about the shipment, when news leaked in Washington, were handled last week by the Foreign Office, and the Foreign Office minister, Doug Henderson, dealt with an emergency statement in the House.

The trade ministers also signed because they were fearful that a separate deal they were brokering to bail out British coal mines might not win full cabinet backing if they dug in over the nuclear issue.

But the ministers were unhappy at being pressurised by Mr Cook and his officials to overturn its principle that no nuclear material would be reprocessed unless it was later returned to its country of origin.

Downing Street continued to insist yesterday that it was agreed through the "appropriate cabinet committee in the usual way".

Mr Battle said: Questions have always to be asked as policy is prepared but there is no doubt that accepting this fuel contributes to international nuclear non-proliferation. I think this was the right decision.

"I am absolutely convinced it is in safe hands at Dounreay. It is much safer there than anywhere else in the world."

A senior Foreign Office spokesman said: "It was the Government's decision to do what we did.

"It was a government decision in which the Prime Minister was closely involved and which followed consultations with the Americans and other partners over a long period.

"It really snot helpful or acof a division between two government departments. This is a government decision."

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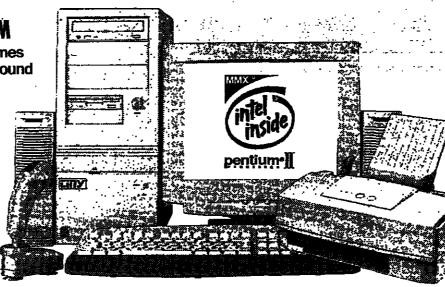
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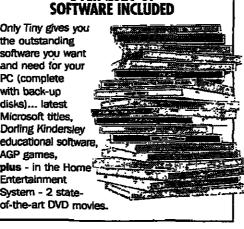
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# MMR study dismisses fears as groundless

By Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

A MAJOR study of children who had the triple MMR vaccine against measles mumps and rubella has found no evidence of a link with bowel disease and

Public confidence in the MMR vaccine was severely the second year of life, after one dented two months ago when of the researchers, Dr Andrew researchers at the Royal Free Hospital, London, published a it should be split into its com-

study of 12 children with bowel disease and autism in the Lances which suggested there might be a connection with the

In some areas of the counrefused permission for their children to have the triple vaccine, which is normally given in Wakefield, recommended that

rately to reduce the shock to the developing immune system.

A subsequent meeting of 37 scientists brought together by the Medical Research Council Calman, the Government's cluded there was no reason to change current vaccination practice, However, parents have continued to refuse MMR and the health department is con-

ponent parts and given sepa- sidering an advertising campaign to restore public confi-

Now scientists in Finland have found further evidence for the safety of the vaccine. Retry, up to 25 per cent of parents at the request of Sir Kenneth searchers from Helsinki University traced children who Chief Medical Officer con-received the vaccine over 14 years between 1982 and 1996. Around 3 million doses of vaccine were given but there were no cases of autism or any sim-

lish their findings in tomorrow's Lances, found 31 children developed symptoms such as fever, diarrhoea and vomiting within 15 days of the vaccination but most recovered within a week. A one-year-old boy had diarrhoea for six weeks but he

The researchers conclude that "over a decade's effort to detect all severe adverse events

could find no data supporting the hypothesis that it would cause pervasive developmental disorder [autism] or inflammatory bowel disease."

The Royal Free study is letters in the Lances. Dr David Walker, of the department of recovered and was healthy six public health medicine at Durham health authority, describes the association between the vaccine and the diseases as

The researchers, who pubassociated with MMR vaccine anecdotal reporting of a biased sample". He says it is "poor science which has no place in a peer-reviewed journal".

Defending his decision to publish, Dr Richard Horton, editor of the Lancet, said: "The dechallenged in a second series of scription of what seems to be a new syndrome and its relation to possible environmental triggers was original. Peer review confirmed that the paper merited publication." He added that "other investigators must

urgently seek to confirm or refute" the findings. The Finnish researchers are the first to do so.

Sir Kenneth Calman has ruled out making the three vaccines available separately to parents who requested them on the grounds that it would be "bad medicine." It would mean children having three injections instead of one and exposed them to the risk of going for two years without at least one vaccine during a critical period.

# **'Desperate** bid' to shift E.coli meat

By Charles Arthur Science and Technology Editor

A LEADING Scottish food chain mounted a desperate deadly food from its shelves . after receiving incorrect advice from the butcher at the centre of an E.coli food poisoning scare, an inquiry heard vesterday.

After hearing media reports of a food poisoning scare at an old people's home, John Skedzieleuski, fresh food controller for the food chain Scot-Lanarkshire butcher at the censcare, on Sunday morning, 24 cause he only supplied the meats from his own shop. chain with sausages, not cooked

process should kill off any consumers.

Giving evidence to the fatal E.coli O157 outbreak, Mr Skedzieleuski said: "I phoned situation was. He said this was nothing to do with us, there was no problem. It was just cooked meat, and he did not supply us with cooked meat."

He said Mr Barr had sounded "upset" during the telephone conversation, and had told him he had withdrawn cooked meat from sale at his own premises. The outbreak was the world's worst E.coli out-

break: 21 elderly people died. arranged with fellow staff to telephone round every Scotmid store that was open that Sunday to remove ali John Barr sausage products from their shelves - as

these were the only Barr prod-

ucts he believed they had.

On Monday, other Scotmid stores were told to follow suit. But Mr Skedzieleuski was told by environmental health offimission to clear potentially cials that cooked meat from Mr Barr's shop had been supplied to three of its six stores in Bonnybridge, central Scotland.

The chain immediately despatched a seven-man team to the town to make sure that cooked meat was removed from sale and that a thorough cleaning operation was carried out at the stores.

Mr Skedzieleuski told Paul mid, called John Barr, the Cullen QC, for Scotmid, that during the Sunday telephone tre of an E.coli food poisoning conversation Mr Barr had not mentioned that he had been vis-November 1996. But Mr Barr ited by environmental health ofreassured him that there was ficials, nor that he had been nothing to worry about be- asked to remove the cooked

The inquiry has already been told that five residents of a nurs-In theory, cooked meat ing home for the elderly had poses a greater risk of causing that weekend eaten sandwichfood poisoning than uncooked es made with cooked meat supsausages, because the cooking plied by a local Scotmid store.

The inquiry in Motherwell heard yesterday that some food contaminated cooked meat shops would not have known would pose a serious risk to that meat they were selling came from John Barr.

John McKinley, a meat disaccident inquiry into the tributor, told the inquiry that he made deliveries to several shops throughout central Scotland. Mr Barr and asked him what the supplying them with some products of John Barr.

He said he bought his supolies from another company, Devine Quality Meats of Motherwell, which in turn bought supplies of some top-of-therange meat such as roast silverside from John Barr.

He said he collected his sunplies from Devine, but the Barr products were not labelled as baving come from Mr Barr's shop. In response to question-Mr Skedzieleuski later ing he agreed that when he made his daily deliveries to shops, they would not necessarily know that John Barr was the ultimate source of some items, like roast beef.

The inquiry continues.

# Masks and basques at Britain's second festival of erotica



#### Naval prang dents pride of woman commander

A PATROL boat controlled by was selected for a command a woman who broke centuries post after competing against of male supremacy at sea by becoming one of the Navy's warship commanders has been

involved in a collision.

Just days after Lt Sue Moore took control of HMS Dasher, it collided with another ship as it was berthing in St Peter Port, Guernsey. A Navy spokesman said the collision was minor. From what I understand, it was a berthing incident when Dasher pulled up alongside HMS Puncher. It is a very tight manoeuvre. We are working in a dynamic environment where

things like this happen. It is not all that unusual."

The Navy spokesman said Lt Moore's 49-tonne 68ft patrol boat was not damaged in the col-

the commanding officers reports it. The authorities look at it and in some cases there would be action taken. But in circumstances like this one they recognise these things happen from time to time." About 30 such in-

Lt Moore, 26, from Bath,

male colleagues.

lision although HMS Puncher suffered minor damage. He added that both ships - which are used as training vessels - were now back at sea, and no action would be taken against Lt Moore. "When something happens

cidents are reported each year.

# US officials keep freed Briton in jail as an illegal immigrant

By Steve Boggan

A BRITISH woman released early from an attempted murder sentence in the United States - a charge which she always denied - has been held in prison because she is deemed an -illegal immigrant".

Sally Croft, 47, who fought extradition to the US for 10 years, was freed by a judge but is being kept in her cell because of American immigration bureaucracy. When she was extradited

against her will, handouffed to US marshals, Ms Croft, formerly a senior accountant with i large British accountancy firm, was taken through normal immigration channels.

As a result, when a judge released her on Tuesday hecause of her impeccable behaviour teaching other prison inmates, she was denied her libcrty so preparations could be

made to deport her. "Illegal immigrants are usually people who displaced and Ms Croft and her co-accused, teachers from 9am to 5pm, five there was no "killing".



Sally Croft: still held

then desperately want to stay there," said her partner, Malcolm Pariett. "In Sally's case, she was desperate to avoid going there and she doesn't want to stay there one second longer than she has to."

The delay in being granted or two days, is the final twist in the prison's programmes." a Kafkaesque nightmare for

Susan Hagan. The women, former members of the Bhagwan Shree Raineesh sect, based in Antelope, Oregon, were accused of plotting to kill a US Attorney, Charles Turner, while tension between the sect and the Antelope community was running at fever pitch in 1985. Mr Turner was never actually

The women were sentenced. to five years in prison in 1995 after being extradited amid a clamour of protest from MPs but were freed by their original trial judge, Malcolm Marsh. who paid tribute to the work they carried out at the Federal Correctional Institute Dublin near San Francisco.

Releasing the women after two years and four months, Judge Marsh said: "In fashioning their sentences, I assumed that the defendants would perform well while in prison. I did not, however, anticipate the Yesterday, The Independent freedom, expected to last one assistance to other immates and

days a week, helping inmates with learning difficulties.

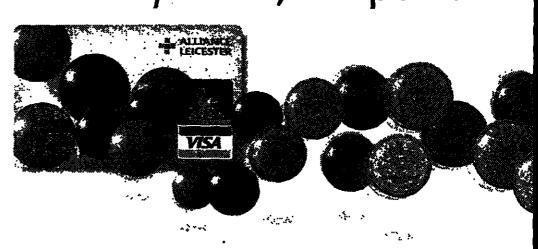
Ms Hagan, 50, an aromatherapist, was freed immediately because of the death of her father several days ago. She is expected to attend his funeral today. "This was the final humilia-

tion for Sally," said Mr Parlett. She was initially elated but then depressed that they continued to keep her in custody as, of all things, an illegal immigrant. She was also sad that it bappened so quickly because she didn't get to say goodhye to any of the friends she made and, because she is being deported, she won't be able to go back to see them. We expect her to be released in a day or two."

No comment was available from the American Embassy in London yesterday. All attempts to penetrate its computerised switchboard proved fruitless.

magnitude of the defendants' referred to the women's membership of the Bhagwan's sect "at the time of the killing". This Both women worked as was an error as, of course,

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Pulling out: The former First Lady of the Philippines, Irnelda Marcos, comforting two weeping supporters moments before she filed a motion to withdraw from the presidential elections, scheduled for II May. Her withdrawal reduces the number of candidates to 10 Photograph: Alex de Rosa/AFP

# Albright's Tibet plea falls on deaf ears in China

MADELEINE Albright, the to Peking during which she IIS Secretary of State, yesterday met senior Chinese leaders, said differences over human rights and political freedoms "remain obstacles to a fully comprehensive partnership" between America and China,

Winding up a two-day visit

Mrs Albright said: "I raised our concerns quite directly about religious freedom. Tibet, the right to free and peaceful expression of political views, and the still large numbers of Chinese prisoners of conscience."

She left behind a list of political prisoners and also urged with the Dalai Lama, the exiled spiritual leader of Tibet.

ton's scheduled arrival at the important for there to be cerity toward dialogue at all".

end of June, the first state visit by a US president since the Peking to re-open a dialogue 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre. Her entourage included the new US Special Co-ordi-Mrs Albright's trip to China nator on Tibet, Greg Craig, an was one of several high-level vis- appointment which has been its ahead of President Bill Clin- criticised by Peking. "It is very

preservation of the cultural and the religious special character of Tibet," she told a news conference. But her plea for renewed dialogue with the Dalai Lama fell on deaf ears. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the Tibetan leader had "no sin-

# Malaysian police 'kidnapping Indonesia exiles'

By Richard Lloyd Parry in Kusala Lumpur

MALAYSIAN police snatch squads are abducting exiled opponents of the Indonesian government as part of a secret deal between the two countries, according to human-rights organisations in Kuala Lumpur.

More than 50 people are being held without access to families, doctors or lawyers, according to the groups, many of them legal residents of Malaysia who have been abducted in daylight by plain clothes security personnel. Despite repeated requests, the Malaysian authorities refuse to allow access to the detainees by officials of the United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR). There are growing fears that they will be sent back to Indonesia, where they risk imprisonment and torture for their political activities.

In the past two weeks alone, at least nine people are reported to have been arrested, and are being held incommunicado in unknown locations.

According to Suaram, a Malaysian rights group, individuals have been kidnapped from their homes, their shops, and while standing at a bus stop in Kuala Lumpur. One man, Ishak Bin Mohammad Daud, was stopped in his car in which he was travelling with two companions. They were allowed to go, but he has not been seen since. Yesterday, lawyers acting on his behalf were told by Malaysian police that they knew nothing of his whereabouts.

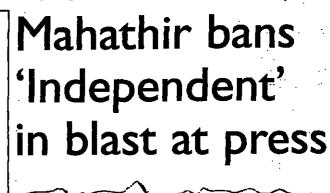
The abductees are all from Aceh, the northernmost province of Sumatra, where Islamic guerrillas have been fighting a sporadic war of independence since the 1950s. After a wave of suppression in the early 1990s, when at least 2000 Acehnese were killed or abducted by the Indonesian army, members of a group calling itself the Aceh/Sumatra Na-(ASNLF) fled to Malaysia. Some lived without proper doc-

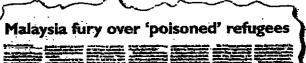
Malaysian government.

children were very afraid." Syed Husin Ali, of the opposition Malaysian People's Party, said: "It is just beginning. They're taking the opportunitional Liberation Front ty of the economic crisis to expel the new illegals and at the same time to round up the Acehnese. We believe they have

Illegal immigrants caught by police, including several hundred from Aceh, were held in detention camps. Recently their numbers have been increased by large numbers of new "illegals" who have sailed to Malaysia to escape the eco-nomic crisis in Indonesia. Human-rights groups believe the Malaysian government is using the mass deportation of "illegais" as an excuse too deport legitimate asylum-seekers at the behest of Indonesia. Several ASNLF members have gone into hiding, and their houses are being watched by police. "Just yesterday the home of one of our members was raided," an ASNLF spokesman said. "He wasn't there, but his wife and

uments, but others obtained res-. idence permits from the been asked to do this by the In-





Monday's article attacked by the Malaysian Prime Minister which was about afleged brutality against illegal immigrants

By Richard Lloyd Parry

TWO British newspapers, including the Independent, have been banned in Malaysia after an outburst by the Prime Minister, Mahathir Mohamad, who accused British journalists of trying to "destroy" Malaysia and blamed them for the econom-

ic crisis besetting the region. Copies of last Monday's Independent and Sunday's Observer have been impounded because they carried articles on alleged brutality against illegal immigrants. Distributors in Kuala Lumpur do not know when, if at all, they will be made

available again for sale. Malaysian papers yesterday carried remarks by Dr Mahathir denying allegations that Malaysian police poisoned, heat and shot dead Indonesian migrant workers in camps while rounding them up for deportation. "Why should we kill people?" he was quoted as saying by the Sun newspaper. "They [the British media] are the ones who are doing it as a way to cover up their role in reducing Indonesia to a state of poverty and

creating unemployment there. "Their poison is to make Indonesia poorer, to devalue the rupiah, to make 20 million indonesians unemployed. These problems and others ... are not caused by the Indonesian government but by those who wrote such reports."

When asked about his govemment's refusal to allow access to the camps, Dr Mahathir said: "Human-rights groups would not be satisfied until the detainces are placed in five-star hotels. If the human-rights are willing to put them in Lumpur's most expensive ho- Abdul Rahim.

tels). Dr Mahathir is noted for his trenchant reaction to external criticism. Last year he said a Jewish conspiracy, masterminded by the American financier George Soros, was behind Malaysia's economic troubles.

A spokesperson for Marican, which distributes the Independent, said foreign papers are always delayed when they contain articles on sensitive subjects. Sometimes they release it and black the article out, sometimes they release it without that page," the spokesperson said.

The decision is made by the Prime Minister's office. "It goes right to Dr Mahathir, or at least to his officials," The Independent's typical daily circulation in Malaysia is 16 copies.

■ A Malaysian MP, Lim Guan Eng, has been given 18 months' jail for having printed a pamphlet that questioned Malaysia's political system. Though his last appeal will be heard by the Federal Court, he expects to lose, AP reports.

He and his father, MPs for a combined 41 years, believe that as Malaysia struggles against economic collapse, the opposition has become scapegoat. Mr Lim was convicted last year on charges of sedition and printing false news in a pamphlet in 1995 entitled "The True Story." The Court of Appeal in April then stiffened his penalty and sentenced him to two 18-month, concurrent sentences for each charge. In the pamphlet, he questioned the government's decision not to press statutory rape charges against a former governor of Malacca state. He also demanded to know why the groups are willing to linance, we 15-year-old girl was detained for months in "protective custody" Shangri-La [one of Kuala after she told prosecutors about





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# Israelis celebrate, as the Palestinians mourn

Patrick Cockburn in Jerusalem sees the jubilee marked with a show of force underlining religious and other rifts

ISRAEL yesterday celebrated ISRAEL Palestinians mourned defeat. To open the celebrations 60 trumpeters blew rams' horns on Mount Hertzl in Jerusalem while Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, said: What we have achieved is

nothing short of a miracle."

As the festivities got under way, with dancing in the streets and fireworks, Al Gore, the US Vice-President, arrived for talks preceding the meeting on the Arab-Israeli conflict in London next week. His officials said he was "not going to negotiate or mediate." The Palestinians have already accepted a US plan by which 13 per cent of the West Bank would be returned to them: Israel says it is only willing to cede 9 per cent.

Celebrations included a flypast by the air force, a naval disparatroopers on Tel Aviv beach. A flight by a Spitfire dating from the War of Independence in 1948 had to be cancelled because of mechanical troubles. Parks were open for free for picnickers and further diversion was provided by ultra-Orthodox



objections to a display by modern dancers at the "Jubilee Bells" festivity last night. The dancers were reported to be intending to strip down to their underwear.

The anniversary celebrations appear finally to have ignited some enthusiasm among Israclis. Previously they appeared to have had more impact in the foreign media than in Is-

Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza are banned from entering Israel while the celebrations continue. Rightplay and the dropping of wingers were planning to demonstrate at Har Homa, the Jewish settlement between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, called Jebel Abu Ghneim by the Palestinians; Israeli peace activists planned a counterdemonstration. Slogans painted on walls read "Hill of Blood"

ttlement activists from the Peace Now group

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staging a counter-march against the pro-settler lobby

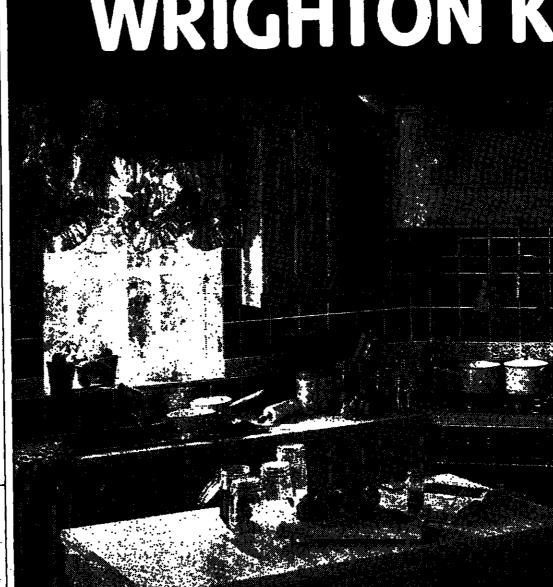
and "Har Homa equals war." Shimon Peres, the former Israeli prime minister, said in a interview: "I think for the future of Israel and in order for Israel to remain a Jewish state we need a Palestinian state. Otherwise we shall have a binational state and if you ask me a binational tragedy." There was heavier than usual Israeli security in Jerusalem, with Israeli troops guarding the entrances into the old city, which is largely Pales-

Mr Gore, officially representing the US, told Israelis: "America will never let you stand alone". He later attended the 'Jubilee Bells' celebration. He will fly on to Saudi Arabia to meet Crown Prince Abdullah and then return to meet Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, in the West Bank town of Ramallah.



Right-wingers, demanding the right to live anywhere in Jerusalem, on the march yesterday near the Har Homa settlement site

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# Roddick brings images of plenty to stoical farmers in an Italian backwater

Calabria scents change of fortune as Body Shop champions its bergamot crop, writes Anne Hanley

ANTONINO PORCINO has 10 hectares of bergamot trees in Calabria and a son who is a research scientist in Surrey. Mr Porcino let his bergamots - large mutant lemons with a distinctive Earl Grey perfume - rot on his trees last season, but would not dream of suggesting that his son should come home to revive the family farm.

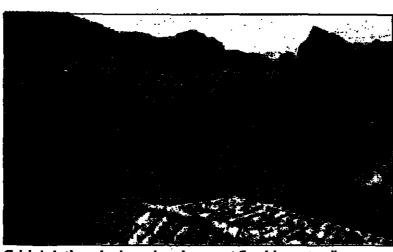
"I keep the trees because they've always been there. They're part of our history," he said. "But we could never have made a living out of them, and we nev-

Mr Porcino did not say that to the Body Shop founder and chief executive Anita Roddick when she visited this depressed, crime-plagued region of southern Italy this week.

Indeed, far from giving her a taste of local stoicism, he had some of his over-ripe bergamots plucked from his trees, shipped to a local factory, and hurled into an extracting machine for her edification.

press launch of the Body Shop's bergamot range, products made with organically grown essential oil from the region. Here, and only here, the fruit flourishes and yields large quantities of

the 1970s when chemical companies came up with cheaper synthetic alternatives to bergamot oil, and the wave thus removing them from under the of ugly, unfinished buildings began thumb of lackadaisical (or, maybe, un-



Calabria is the only place where bergamot flourishes naturally

Calabrian coast where this citrus grows best. Never one to bend before the dictates of the chemicals industry, Mrs Roddick came here for her scent.

True to the Body Shop philosophy Mrs Roddick was in Calabria for the she and her team came not only for business, but for the good of the area. Indefatigable as always when on the trail of a Good Cause, the Body Shop Community Trade division rooted out the few dogged organic producers, induced a handful more to eschew chemicals, But the industry has dwindled since and saved the odd bergamot orchard from the construction industry's axes. They dealt directly with the farmers,

The Link

flowing over the thin strip of beautiful scrupulous) local oil extractors who year after year have paid producers less. For now, the Body Shop is taking only around 3 per, cent of oil produced annually "though if the bergamot range sells well, we will be seeking to increase that", said Simone Mizzi, head of operations in Italy.

Even at this early stage, however, Ms Mizzi has noble aspirations for the Calabrian initiative. "This region has two big problems: unemployment, which reaches 65 percent amongst young people, and the break-up of the traditional Calabrian extended family. We hope to do our bit to solve them both." she said.

The locals are happy to go along with to stay in Surrey."

the whole thing, though they have slightly different expectations. "It will definitely stop some bergamot trees being grubbed up and replaced with cash crops," said Diego Latella of the Assoberg producers' association from which the Body Shop is buying its oil. "But most of all, it's great publicity."

"It may generate some jobs," said Giuseppe Nistico, president of Calabria's regional council. "More than anything else, it's good to have an international company working in the region. It's all about image, really."

Mr Nistico, a pharmacologist by trade and very keen on touting bergamot's anti-viral properties in the fight against Aids was rather dismissive of the Body Shop project, and miffed that the British company had waved aside the region's offers of tax breaks in exchange for setting up new joint venture companies with local entrepreneurs. "But we can create small-sized firms ourselves, by using European Union regional funds efficiently, he said, orecasting an ambitious 60,000 more jobs in the near future.

Mr Porcino, on the other hand, is just happy once in a while to be able to put his beloved bergamot fruits to some use. "I'm not expecting to make money out of it, with or without the Body Shop," he said. "Bergamots are something you grow for love, not for money. For the foresceable future, I'll be telling my son



# Greenpeace activists seize toxic sludge By Michael McCarthy n Aznakollar, southern Spain GREENPEACE activists were

security guards yesterday when they took chemical samples from the mine waste reservoir Led by the ship's Swiss captain whose rupture and subsequent flood have put at risk the Coto Donana in southern Spain, Europe's largest nature reserve.

Scuffles broke out when the environmental pressure group decided on direct action at the nalcollar in Andalusia owned by the Swedish/Canadian mining

The company's waste pond, a mile long and half-a-mile end, sending 6 million cubic metres of highly-polluted water and toxic sludge into the rivers Guadiamar and Guadalquivir and so on down towards the Coto Donana National Park with its colonies of rare birds.

The pollution was diverted has contaminated much of the surrounding area. Greenpeace complained that the company will not give details of the sludge's precise toxicity, and that the waste pond was still leaking into the adjacent river.

Yesterday, the reservoir was invaded by the MV Greenpeace. the group's ship, which had sailed to Sanlucar De Barrameinvolved in violent clashes with da at the mouth of the Guadalquivir to put the pollution under an international spotlight.

Peter Schwarz, a dozen Green-

peace activists scaled the 100ft

high walk of the waste pond and

ran down to its now empty floor, scooping up sludge samples for chemical analysis. Security guards converged giant multi-metals mine at Az- on them from all over the reservoir and in the scuffles that followed, the activists claimed,

multi-national Boliden Apirsa. rocks were thrown, a camera smashed and Greenpeace haven't told us anything yet." members threatened with a wide, burst its banks last week- gun. One of the group's biologists, Pablo Mascarenas, was detained by the guards but later released. However, the group got away with its samples, which will be sent to the University of Barcelona for analysis.

"We want to establish exactly what the toxicity is," said Eva before it reached the park, but Hernandez, habitats' campaigner for Greenpeace Spain. "The government and the company are not saying. We know there are heavy metals in it, but they won't say what and they won't give out a list, so we will do an analysis of our own."

The management at the mine north of Seville distanced it from the security guards' actions, which was "too tough", according to spokesman Anders Ampoinsson, "It's too tough a

way to handle these issues." Mr Ampomsson said a very small amount of waste was still leaking from the reservoir. He was not prepared to say what the waste contained precisely, but added: "We have taken some samples, but we haven't analysed them yet. We are prepared to do whatever is required, and we are waiting for the authorities to give us permission to get on with it. They

Yesterday the company's president, Anders Bulow, went to inspect the waste pond with the President of the Andalusian regional government, Manuel Chaves. Later, it was announced that a special team was being formed to cope with the clean-up and compensation operations.

It was not a moment too soon for the World Wide Fund for Nature, whose Spanish office yesterday lambasted the lack of co-ordination between government agencies and institutions in response to the

## France gets jobless rate down to below 3 million

THE official number of jobless people in France has fallen below 3,000,000 for the first time in three years. France, coming steadily out of a long economic slumber, has been creating more jobs than other industrial countries over the past 10 months. In March its unemployment rate fell to 12 per cent. Further falls are confidently anticipated this year. The Socialist-led government of Lionel Jospin claims the credit for the improving jobs market. Other economic commentators point to the fall of the franc against the dollar, which has further boosted exports. — John Lichfield, Paris

## Oslo täbles Holocaust deal

THE Norwegian Prime Minister, Kjell Bondevik, proposed a "moral and ethical settlement" for Norway's Holocaust victims that could cost the country up to £38m. The proposal comes nearly a year after Norway was stung by criticism for failing to establish a level of compensation. About a third of Norway's pre-war community of 2,100 Jews died in the Holocaust. When survivors returned from Nazi internment, they got little help. Much of their property had been seized, and was never returned.

## Pope looks homeward

PRESIDENT Aleksander Kwasniewski officially invited the Pope to visit his native Poland. Poland's Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, said earlier that the trip was likely to be in June next year - the 77-year-old Pontiff's eighth visit to his homeland since he was elected in 1978. --- Reuters, Warsaw

#### 'Linda lunch' for Romans

THOUSANDS of Rome schoolchildren sat down to a meatfree "Linda lunch" in memory of the late vegetarian animalrights campaigner Linda McCartney. The children feasted on dishes including potato and courgette pizzas, tomato and mozzarella cheese salads and pasta with vegetable sauce. - Reuters, Rome

# Serbs killed in Kosovo

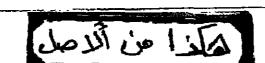
PRISTINA (AP) - The Serbian authorities yesterday sent police to prevent Albanian students from entering the main university in Kosovo. News of the killing of three Serbs by Albanian militants added to tensions.

The students were turned away by hundreds of riot police despite a Serb-Albanian agreement last month to permit Albanians to return to university premises in the Kosovo capital Pristina that they have boycolled in protest against Serbian rule in the province.

Among the three Serbs reported killed was a policeman killed by a mortar attack on police station in southern Kosovo. Serb police sources claimed the attack was carried out by the Kosovo Liberation Army, who are fighting for Kosovo's independence. In western Kosovo the bodies of two Serbs, believed to have been kidnapped by Albanian militants a week ago, were found vesterday.

On Wednesday, the United States and its allies crafted a mix of incentives and penalties - including a freeze on Serbian as-sets abroad - to stop the Kosovo crackdown.





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# Flowery sentiments wilt as Secretaries Day gets the cash message

**7**OU WILL appreciate the viyou recall that one of the chief claims made by Paula Jones, who almy, or the Independent's, expense. leges you-know-who did you-know- This was not because of anything she what to her in a hotel room in had done or not done - but because Arkansas seven years ago, was that I was meeting my deadline, and anyshe did not receive flowers on Sec- way, I regard the whole business as retaries Day - an omission she interpreted as punishment for gument: one witness said the non-bouquet was a simple oversight, another - that flowers were sent, but she was away, and a third - that she had given specific orders for any flowers to be left without wa-

tal significance of Secre- week and I regret to say our office ists nor is invited. At the risk of taries Day in the US when assistant (not secretary, please) did sounding ungrateful ... what secrenot get flowers, perfume or lunch at a commercialised and condescending charade, designed to make up for non-compliance. Whether she did or what is still, even in this land of agnot (get flowers, of course) is actu- gressive equal opportunity, a disally the subject of intricate legal ar- tinctly unequal male-female

To my amazement, there are others of like mind. As a certain Joanna Torrey said in a letter that day in USA Today: "Floral tributes instantly mire the secretary-boss relationship just typical? Now you know affirin an uneasy emotional context pre-

Well, Secretaries Day fell last suming an intimacy that neither extaries really would like is money."

> T MAY BE coincidence that Secretaries Day is followed by Take your daughters to work day, but I doubt it. More likely it is a male conspiracy to ensure a continued supply of loyal and comely Fawn Halls and Betty Curries for the next generation of erring Ollie Norths and Bill Clintons. But wait: it wasn't only Secretaries Day that felt a backlash this year. Sons are apparently feeling left out, so some parents rebelled and took their boys along, too - and they got all the publicity. Isn't that

WASHINGTON DIARY



THE US media are working themselves up into a lather of indignation about the imminent appearance of Teletubby toys in US shops. Reporters are digging mative action is really on the way out.

out all manner of lobbyists and "concerned" parents to condemn what they see as the immoral, reprehensible and regrettable targeting of a "gap market" of one-to-twoyear-olds. Aren't the innocents exposed to commercial pressures early enough (two onwards), they wail; is nothing sacred? As though these "innocents" were not aiready planted in front of the television half the day, as though child-targeted commercials between children's programmes were something new, as though American schools were not selling their souls to give Coca-Cola and other companies "exclusive" marketing rights on campus in return for a new sports hall, computers or text books. Hello-o-o, as they say here with a particular curling in-

flection, what are these people talking about? Could their sudden distaste for raising the consumer consciousness of toddlers have anything to do with the fact that Teletubbies are "foreign", and already a

T THE RIPE old age of 60. Jane Fonda is still as refreshingly disdainful of tact as ever. At a recent UN round table to rescue her - former Georgia govshe had less than kind words for her adopted state of Georgia, where she lives with her media millionaire husband, Ted Turner. There were parts in the north of the state, she said, that resembled a Third World country, with children "starving to death" and "people who live in tarpaper shacks with no indoor plumb-

ing". The Governor, Zell Miller, who felt slighted by this slur, objected, accusing her of seeing everything from her penthouse apartment in Atlanta, where "maybe the view is not as clear as it needs to be".

Ms Fonda offered a generous apology: "I was wrong; I should not have said what I said. My comments were inaccurate and ill-advised." At which point a cavalier rushed in ernor, US president and peanut farmer Jimmy Carter. In a letter to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. signed jointly with his wife, Rosalynn, he said that "having worked with her on issues of concern to Georgia's least fortunate, we know that she does not deserve the vituperative condemnation she has received".

# Clinton on hook again over sex-case ruling

By Mary Dejevsky in Washington

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COSOVO

THE American presidency was threatened with a new crisis yesterday after a judge ruled that Monica Lewinsky, the woman at the centre of White House sex allegations, does not have immunity from prosecution. She could now be summoned to give evidence against Bill Clinton under oath. She may even

be indicted for perjury. The judge's ruling became public just as the White House appeared confident that Mr Clinton had put the most damaging sex allegations behind him. An hour before the news filtered into the media, his office had announced he would give his first solo press conference of the year, concentrating on the flourishing economy.

The leaking of the ruling made it inevitable Mr Clinton's sex life would dominate a major public appearance yet again. But it also brought the cretly by Ms Lewinsky's former "Lewinsky affair" squarely back into centre-stage after a month in which the four-month-old

Kenneth Starr, appeared to be

Ms Lewinsky now faces the prospect of being subpoenaed to testify under oath about the the grand jury if she were grantnature of her relationship with Mr Clinton, or even being indicted for perjury. Both she and Mr Clinton have denied under oath there was a sexual rela-

The leak has brought the Lewinsky case back centre-stage

tionship between them. But Mr Starr is reported to have evidence from witnesses, and photographs, that at least call the denials into question.

Mr Starr also has more than 30 hours of recordings, made secolleague and confidante, Linda Tripp, in which Ms Lewinsky is said to recount an affair with the President in salacious detail.

by the independent prosecutor. Her lawyer, William Ginsburg. has suggested his client may be given to fantasising, but he also oversaw a written offer of what she would be prepared to tell

ed immunity.

In this offer, which remains secret, she is believed to have admitted having sex with Mr Clinton, but denied he put pressure on her, or induced her by means of a job offer, to lie about it. This allegation that Mr Clinton suborned her to commit perjury is the most serious open press conferences only in charge against him and one on the company of others - the which he could theoretically Palestinian leader, Yasser be impeached.

Two months ago Mr Ginsburg understood her offer of testimony had secured his client immunity from prosecution. Mr Starr, however, denied there had ever been a deal, and his judge. Ms Lewinsky has the option of appealing against the decision; she could also offer more evidence to Mr Starr in a to testify but claim the Fifth maining silent because she premature.

ing otherwise. Any of these options will leave the scandal in the public eye and could, if his denial of the affair is contested, endanger the President.

Mr Clinton had been shielded from risky exposure to the media since 16 January, when the Washington Post reported allegations that he had had an affair with Ms Lewinsky, a former White House trainee, and prevailed upon her to lie about it.

After that, Mr Clinton gave Arafat, and Tony Blair, among them - with less formal appearances limited to single subjects, like anti-smoking legislation. With the Paula Jones sexual harassment suit dismissed last month and the view has now been upheld by a Lewinsky case apparently running into the sand, questions about Mr Clinton's sex life were receding, and the White House had clearly judged it safe new bid for immunity, or agree to expose him to the massed ranks of the Washington press Amendment - insist on re- corps. That judgment now looks

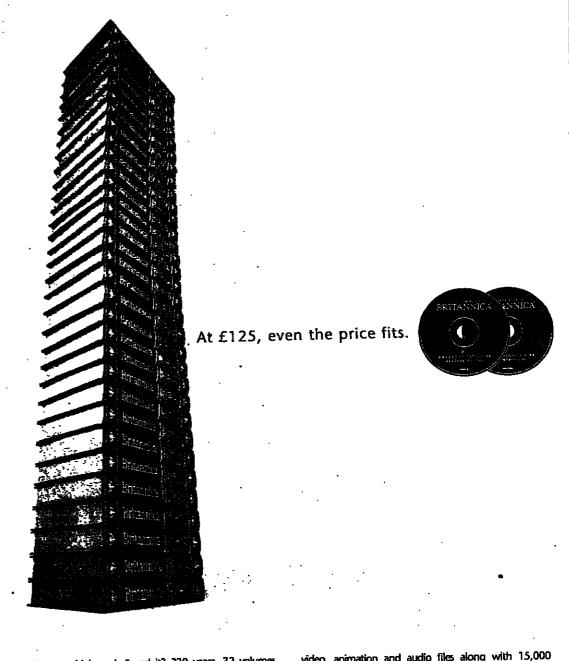


Monica Lewinsky: Decision that she is not free from prosecution presents new threat to presidency

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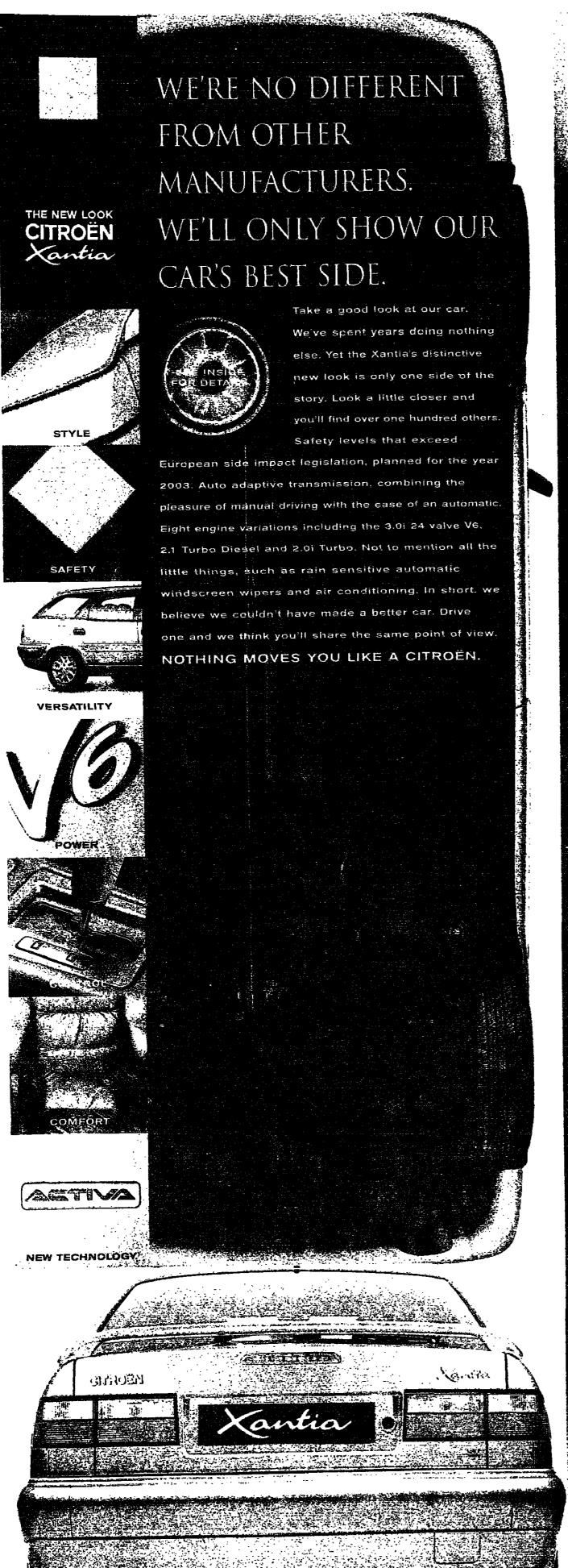


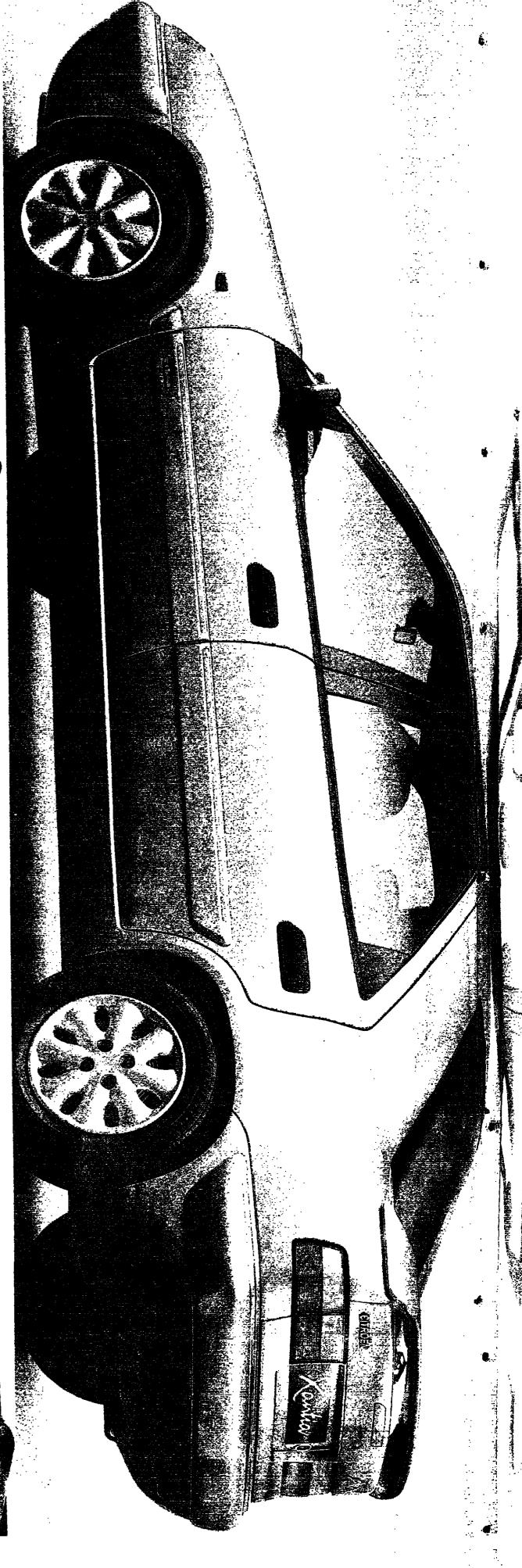
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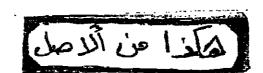
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# EU visionaries enter the euro zone

Experts have warned the European Commission to expect mass confusion as 290 million people experience a currency revolution

By Katherine Butler in Brussels

EFFORTS to end the deadlock over the nationality of the man who will take charge of the future European Central Bank are failing to mask a widening rift between France and Germany on the eve of the launch of Emu.

European Union headquarters hammered flagpoles into place and telefor this weekend's summit it seemed that the French, by refusing to withdraw a challenge to the Germanbacked Dutch candidate, would plunge a truly historic moment into an unseemly crisis.

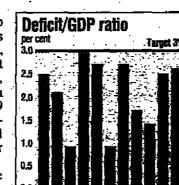
The summit will set the seal on the most momentous decision in Europe's post-war history. Eleven national currencies including the French franc, the German mark and the Spanish peseta will be abandoned for a new economic unity invested in one money, the euro.

will formalise the creation of the curo zone and confirm that 11 countries - all but Britain, Denmark, Sweden, and Greece - are ready to enter it from January. From tomorrow night, when even the bilateral conversion rates to apply from 1 January 1999 will be decided, the economic and pomy on the eve of the launch of Emu. litical destinies of the participants will Yesterday, as workmen at the be intertwined more closely than ever

It falls to Tony Blair, because vision satellite vans began to arrive Britain has the EU presidency, to confront the French and end the feud over the Central Bank. In The Netherlands today Mr Blair and the Dutch Prime Minister, Wim Kok, will try to agree a strategy to allow the it ought to be run remain deeply at French President, Jacques Chirac, to back down and save face.

Whatever the outcome, the row has exposed rifts which some fear Italy was making frantic efforts to could undermine credibility in the new money and tear Emu asunder.

Together Bonn and Paris have taken Europe to the launch pad of this bourg spa resort and a meeting unparalleled experiment. Yet the Tomorrow heads of government German and French visions of how



odds. Just a year ago doubts about the

Emu timetable raged as unemploy-

ment in Germany hit record levels.

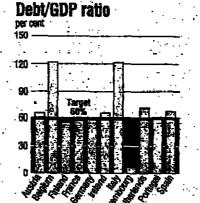
cross the finishing line on time but few

believed Rome could stay the pace.

there of finance ministers last Sep-

tember was the moment when, sens-

Mondorf-les-Bains, a Luxem-



ing a palpable change in mood,

Emu watchers and the markets be-

gan to stop doubting. Economic

growth was picking up, governments

had turned the corner in efforts to

slash deficits to the Maastricht lim-

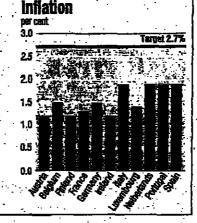
its, and crucially the Germans had

accepted that Emu would be broad-

ly based. The endgame was in sight.

imalisation seem like a blip is in store

A revolution which will make dec-



for the 290 million people being asked to take on the new currency. Experts have warned the European Commission to expect mass confusion and the possibility that elderly

people will stop spending for a time. Workers may be shocked to learn their pay demands are subject to the veto of Brussels or Frankfurt, where national tax and spending plans of "common concern" will be vetted. pline and the German obsession with

Because of the draconian conditions set by the Bundesbank, a budgetary strait-jacket will be tied around the zone, robbing governments of much of their economic sovereignty.

But then Emu was always a political wolf in economic clothing. Founded on a bargain struck by French and German visionaries it is being served up as a logical extension of the single market, which will cut costs, help Europe to rival America, spur growth, promote investment and create jobs.

Whether Emu delivers on any of these promises cannot be known yet, . but the journey will force the participants into closer political links. But failure to settle the European Central Bank dispute tomorrow will invite claims that the project is unsound because its management will always be at the mercy of conflicting political demands.

The ECB disagreement is also symptomatic of a worrying source of future tension over budgetary disci-

ensuring that the earo will be as strong as the old Deutschmark. The wedge between France and Germany on this emerged over the stability pact, a mechanism to punish reckless finances.

Now Bonn wants to go further to soothe the fears of Germans about giving up the mark. The Germans want a commitment to a freeze on tax cuts and public spending until

everyone is running a healthy surplus. The biggest problem with this is the French. Their leaders may sign up to budgetary stability but implementing it in a country where governments have traditionally intervened in the economy to create jobs or cushion shocks will be a different matter.

Perhans of most concern is the extent to which public support for the Euro is still lukewarm. But public opinion has never stopped the EU visionaries. Their dream is within grasp. Whether the price of that dream is too high for ordinary citizens to pay may not be known for years. By then it will be too late to turn back.

# A member in all but name

By Rupert Comwell

BRITAIN may be standing aloof from the launch of the euro on 1 January next year. But it will not escape the conseouences of potentially the most far-reaching step towards European unity since the Rome treaty setting up the original European Economic Community

Though the Government says sterling will not be joining management even harder. the single currency until the next Parliament - at the earliest not cluded from membership of until 2002, and perhaps not Euro-X, the single currency club before 2004 if the logic of this week's Treasury Select Committee is borne out - it will long margins of Ecofin, the regular since have become a fait accompli for business and finance. In theory, Euro-X will confine and perhaps for the ordinary itself to matters pertaining to the consumer in the United Kingdom as well.

Behind the scenes, no one has worked harder than the tice it could become the EU's Bank of England to help the main economic policymaking City adapt to the new reality of body, in which Britain's voice will a currency representing 11 be unheard. If so, then Mr countries that add up to what will be, barring the United States, the largest economy in the world. The consequences for the London foreign exchange market, the biggest in world, will be profound.

Leading British companies meanwhile are starting to convert their accounts to the euro. Sainsbury, the supermarket chain, plans to accept euro coins and banknotes when they begin to circulate in 2002. By the backdoor, whatever decision will gradually enter British lives.

Given the weight of public opinion against UK membership of the single currency -steady at some 60 per cent of Government - Mr Blair had little choice but to adopt a wait- British exporters.

and-see policy. But this may make the task of economic

In policy terms, Britain is exto be set up this month or next, which will meet informally on the sessions of EU finance ministers. currency union. But its real influence will only emerge over: time. Britain's fear is that in prac-Blair's promise to put Britain "at the heart of Europe" would

have an even hollower ring.

erful organisation in the EU. Most crucial of all will be the performance of the single currency. The Chancellor, the Bank of England and British industry will pray for a "hard" the Government takes, the euro euro in which the markets have confidence and whose exchange rate would not further erode the competitiveness of sterling.

the electorate despite the more lar, the Swiss franc and the pro-European rhetoric of the pound. This would only make



Similarly, while it remains outside the single currency, Britain will have no board seat on the European Central Bank, guardian of the euro and bound to become the single most pow-

A weak euro could produce a flight of capital into the dollife more uncomfortable for

# Towards a single European currency ZONE CUITENCIAS TEXA ECB executive board Global impact of the Euro-zone

# They're in – but can they stay the course?

By Diane Coyle Economics Editor

THIS weekend's summit will be a political event. Uncertainties about the economic success or failure of monetary union lie in the more distant future. After all the earlier fuss about which countries would clear the hurdles set by the Maastricht Treaty, it has been obvious for months that the single currency would start with 11 members, Greece the only wannabe that would not make the grade.

The official reports from the European Commission and European Monetary Institute, intended to pass judgement on which countries met the criteria set out in the Maastricht Treaty, turned out to be formalities. After heroic struggles, the wouldbe members hit most of the targets and little fudge was needed to sweeten the verdict.

In fact, only Italy and Belgium missed one criterion by a long way. Both have na-

take decates for both countries to reduce their debt burdens to acceptable levels, but politically neither could have been excluded from Emu until 2030 or beyond.

Yet the fact that the first-wave members managed to clamber over the Maastricht hurdles has only concentrated attention on the long-term economic prospects - or dangers. One question is how long the participants can keep up the tough budget discipline imposed on them by the treaty. With high unemployment, a rapidly rising pensions burden and an array of spending cuts and tax increases introduced to meet the Emu deadline likely to be reversed, it is hard to believe the political will to keep government deficits below 3 per cent of GDP will prove strong.
The big members will find it hardest. For

smaller countries like Spain and Ireland whose economies are booming, and will boom even more when they reduce their tional debts relative to their GDP that are borrowing costs to German levels, there will

about double the Maastricht ceiling. It could be little pain in fiscal discipline. For the wheezing German and French economies, more leanness and discipline is going to hurt. The Germans insist it is what they want anyway, and would favour a tougher stability pact - the post-launch budget corset, involving fines for profligate governments. The French do not, and the financial markets are poised for both political tension between the two Euro-behemoths and a surge in government spending.

An even more important long-term question mark hangs over how well the member economies will adjust to marching in lock-step with each other. The answer depends on whether they can replace the ability to adjust exchange rates and interest rates with other forms of flexibility. Many economists have their doubts about this, flexibility being a dirty word across much of the Continent. Productivity gains by European industries are one of the economic prizes offered by the single currency, but only the fittest member countries will win. the punt and was then ordered

# Inflation dogs Celtic Tiger

IRELAND, whose place as a founding member of the single currency will be confirmed tomorrow, will be the litmus test for Britain's decision on joining, many economists believe.

The dilemmas now faced by the Irish also provide a good example of how divergences in the economic make-up of the single currency zone could make the project deeply unpopular to implement.

Unlike Britain, Ireland has never been through the political convulsions on Europe which tore apart the Tories.

A Euro-friendly electorate and a political consensus on monetary union led the government to decide some years ago that with or without the United Kingdom, the Republic's biggest trading partner, Ireland's place was on the inside.

fying criteria laid down by the all monetary policy about tobe Maastricht treaty thanks to sound management of the finances, industrial peace and a booming economy which is out of step with the Continent.

It is one of the few candidate countries to have achieved a budgetary surplus. Yet bigh growth and the creeping inflation which has come on the tail of the Celtic Tiger is already bringing Ireland into conflict with its Euro-zone partners.

Come January 1999 Ireland's interest rates will have to be cut to German levels. Yet this is the last thing Ireland needs when by the end of next year it will have the highest inflation in the EU after Greece.

The Irish authorities got the first taste of life post-euro last month when the government came under pressure to revalue



to take immediate action to tackle inflation. In practice this means that

at a time when spiralling house prices are fuelling demarts from teachers and nurses pr wage increases and cuts to ese the burden of income tax, he government is being told to freeze spending and put tax ots on hold in the interests of he stability underpinning the euo.

Different economic stretures, cultures and historial legacies are cause for immese concern throughout the ero Ireland meets all the quali- area in light of the one-size-tsimposed.

How will vast swathes of he continent respond in the sale way to the same economic mdicine when such differencesin things like pay, social securly, demography, and labour mrket regulation persist?

For the Brussels plannes, the answer is that a federal moetary policy will help to iron at the boom and bust cyclial movements while closer cordination on tax and spendig will operate in parallel.

And we are seeing signs that the prospect of Emu is having an electro-shock effect on the most entrenched economic forcing governments and con panies in France, Belgium ar Germany to adopt the "Angle Saxon" style hire-and-fire labou model which Britain and frelan have already embraced.

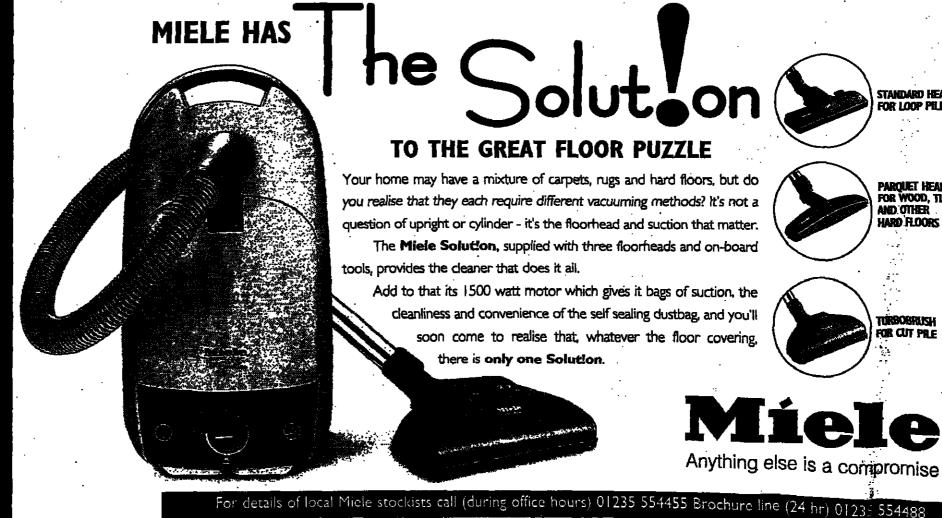
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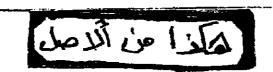
AND OTHER

HARD FLOORS

TURBOBRUSH FOR CUT PILE

# LOOP PILE HARD FLOORS





Open to all newspapers, national and regional, the entries were judged for content and reproduction. The panel of industry judges said: "The Independent's combination of outstanding photography and sensitivity and the imaginative use of photographs within the newspaper were unmatched. "Highly visual events such as the Princess of Wales' funeral were powerfully expressed, with images a dominant contributor to the editorial coverage. The bold use of photography has characterised this title over the last year, and makes it a clear leader in the field."

David Swanborough, The Independent's picture editor, explains how he and his team of photographers stand out from the rest of the pack: "This latest commendation recognises that not only are our photographs outstanding, but the way in which they are used on the page gives them an unrivalled impact.

"Take Nicola Kurtz's photograph of Red Indian John Black Feather on a trip to London. No other national newspaper would allow a picture, spreading across eight columns, to dominate the front page like that.

"The photograph was effectively the day's splash. We are saying that it is the most original and fresh thing in the paper. And as such, the best way to attract readers.

"Things have changed over the years, of course. Many people thought that a paper known for its use of black and white photography would not adapt to the introduction of colour. Clearly they have been proved wrong. At one stage we used a lot of menacing weather scenes, but we have moved on from that because keeping things fresh is a real priority.

"Our photographers tend to work away from the pack. They try to get a different take on the day's events by careful observation. The last thing I want to see is a snapshot, or the same picture everyone else has got.

"Photographers have to be flexible. It is not every day that we are going to get a royal wedding or a funeral. A dull event needs to be made into something special. Tom Pilston's picture of Michael Heseltine is one example of this. It completely sums up the scale of the Conservatives' defeat, while producing a really different fresh mage. This photograp has everything. It is humorous, imaginative and speaks volumes. It is also one of my personal favourites.

"We always allow our photographers to experiment with their pictures because photography is an art form. Instead of just producing a black and white image, for example, they will tint it for effect. We also like the unusual. John Voos' image of a masked woman at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival is a 'standalone' picture which tells a story in itself. It also makes you look twice. There is something strange, perhaps slightly unnerving about it.

"We have tremendous freedom to produce original photographs in The Independent. In the Time Off section on Saturdays we have an open brief to produce the images we want.

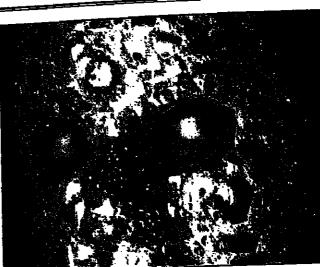
"And I suppose this is The Independent's secret. We use pictures to reflect stories, inform readers and entertain. And we have the freedom to use them properly. This selection of pictures, taken during the past year, represents the best of what we do."

A selection of photographs taken on Independent foreign assignments can he seen on the front of Saturday's Time Off section.

140



By Nicola Kurtz: John Black Feather, who came to London to retrieve the remains of his long-dead ancestor



By John Voos: A member of the Players' Company theatre group, rehearsing for a performance at the Edinburgh



By Andrew Buurman: Kensington Palace, I September 1997

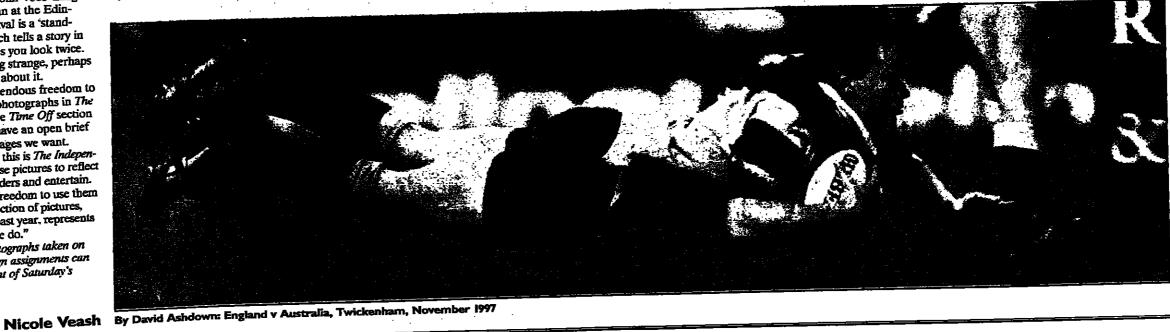
# An Independent eye



By Tom Pilston: The Tory conference. Michael Heseltine's face says it all



By Brian Harris: One Man, training at dawn in Greystoke, Cumbria



Don't you know that it's different for boys?

Jack Straw wants to sort them out. A charity is also on their case. Little nonder, says Angela Neustatter

BOYS are failing at school, lagging hehind girls with their degree passes and watching girls getting jobs over their heads. The only lead they have, we are told, is in crime and violence so much so that this week the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, tagged them a "priority" case

for urgent action. So what are we to do with boys? We don't like their laddish behaviour, being a football fan tantamount to becoming a larger lout; if they flex their muscles rather than opening their hearts they are all prown and no sensitivity. Then there

are critics who claim that they are turning into wimps, thanks to single mothers and a lack of father figures, not to mention the feminists who are raising boys to play with dolls not guns, and bringing up girls to play with trains. As one mother observed: "We pity women with two or three sons and celebrate hearti-

ly when a friend has a daughter." So concerned is the charity Parent Network that next week it is holding a major conference, "Raising Boys", where Steve Biddulph, the Australian family therapist and best selling author of child-rearing books,

longer assume that boys and girls are equals. It might be unpopular with feminist notions of child development, but Biddulph is categorical: boys are different to girls. Oh, and they are not difficult at all, if we can just remember this basic fact.

Biddulph will talk about the importance of a Dad as role model (or if there's not a Dad around, a male friend) who can have contests of strength, playfight and test physical prowess on the sports ground, how they can help boys feel pride and pleasure in their strength while also learning the difference between that and aggression.

As a mother of two sons who, from the moment number one emerged into the world kicking, wriggling and seeming to flex diminutive muscles, have

will warn us that we must no been uproariously physical, noisy, energetic, testosteronedriving characters, I believe Biddulph is saying something important. My sons were born at a time when feminists - including me - were challenging everything to do with male culture and trying to bring up shining examples of emancipation.

One thing that was absointely not acceptable was the boy child who took swaggering delight in his physical strength. But, like someone with a dirty secret, I silently delighted in this and still do as they leap and cavort across the sitting-room floor throwing themselves into karate positions, wrestling with their Dad, towering over me and flexing inflatable pectorals. They so obviously feel good about their big strong bodies and being admired for this

most primitive and fundamen- versity, in work and in selftal maleness when it is shown off without harming anyone. at home for the kind of young That satisfied, they can also afford to let a soft side show. A measure of the success of

woman they were becoming. Conversely, those who were not approved of did far less well. Which brings us back to boys, feminism's battle for equality

It's time to give our sons the encouragement they need. Forget the New Man: Let's hear it for Real Boys

about themselves came last year with Adrienne Katz's impressive work, "Can-Do-Girls". showing that they are doing work with badly punctured even better at school and uni- confidence, and the girls they sapien has strutted the planet.

and feminists' determination who now live in a climate that to bring up girls to feel good tells them just about everything they grew up believing boys should be is devalued or despised. Many see fathers out of

esteem. Key to this was approval

are growing up among are unimpressed by the things they have assumed they should be. Vic Seidler author of Man

Enough (Sage), who has worked with men's groups for years, knows the feeling: "There is a feeling of cultural dislocation. As young men, we can no longer rely upon what our fathers taught us." While Angela Phillips, mother of a son, who explored boys' dilemma in The Trouble With Boys (Pandora) says: "Growing up male is hard - very hard.

It seems to me that we have been so busy concentrating on girls and their rights and needs, that we are failing boys and we need to get back to enjoying who and what they are that is different. Part of what is different is physical prowess - that has been true as long as homo

Charlie Lewis, a Lancaster University lecturer who has worked extensively on boys' behaviour, wisely points out: "The boy who can feel his physical body is enjoyed is far more likely to be able to get close to women and to other men, and to want to do well in other ways than the boy who feels what he is at the most fundamental level is unacceptable. But the trouble is, we've come to fear what boys are."

Of course, building up boys in a constructive way isn't only about pride in their physicality. They need to feel valued in many ways, they need Dads who can show them how. Women have done their bit to help girls rush ahead. Now it's time to give our sons the encouragement they need. Forget the New Man: Let's hear it for Real Boys.

# Tony's not for turning

Blair looks laid back but he won't stray from his agenda. Anthony Bevins, political editor, reports

ANYONE who sees Tony Blair working in his shirt-sleeves from a couch in a small and unassuming ante-room of No 10 knows the difference he has made to the style of Government. Relaxed, confident and determined to keep the "big picture" firmly in his sights, he has made remarkable progress over the past year, not least in bringing about a revolution of constitutional reforms, from devolution through to freedom of in-

The Good Friday agreement on Northem Ireland, the start that has been made on lifting the beef han, publication of a green paper on welfare reform, Bank of England independence, the bandgun ban, and the investment of the windfall tax in welfare to work are just a small part of the momentous changes introduced in the past year. Yet, a deep-seated cynicism, if not detestation, pervades parts of the Labour Party when Mr Blair's first-year record is discussed.

The Prime Minister's lengthy anniversary letter to party members last week may have said: "The support of all Labour members, young and old, new and long-standing, is vital both to maintain the momentum of this government and to win the next election victory," but the most snide and venomous criticism of Mr Blair and the first Labour administration for a generation comes today from Labour MPs and party members, as often as not speaking anonymously.

But as Jack Straw - one of the Blair favourites - said in a speech this week, the Prime Minister has no interest in the ideological battles of the past, nor the clashes of the traditional class-based left-right divide. "Indeed, where we can work with other parties or with people without a party political background, we will do so," Mr

Mr Blair has moved beyond ideology, beyond party, and is moving to a new way of doing things. "What marks us out from the politics of the past," Mr Straw said, "is that we will not besitate to do what is right and in the best interests of the country as a whole."

If that means treading on the toes of the old Labour left, or the trades unions. or any other traditional Labour pressure group, Mr Blair will do it without fear or favour. To the Labour critics, it seems that only the CBI, the royals, and Rupert Murdoch can expect more favours than fairness demands. The bitterness that generates among old and faithful supporters is natural, but it will not deflect Mr Blair from his project: a society in which economic efficiency and social justice go hand in

But the efficiency side of the equation is the one that creates most internal Labour dissent; fuelled by the demand for more money to be spent on the poor and the needy today, rather than tomorrow, and paid for by tax increases if necessary. Mr

Blair, as always, wants a balance; as he said in last week's party letter. "The whole government shares Gordon Brown's determination to get the public finances on a sound footing. We want public money spent and the unforseeable crises that will inon the things we care about, not on paying the interest on debts built up under the over the next four years. Tories. Nor do we want spending today to

become cuts tomorrow." Mr Blair's love affair with fiscal prudence drives some members of his party to distraction. But his devotion is no passing fad or fancy infatuation; it is absolute. Whether the voters will acknowledge the

fickle gratitude, the speed with which evitably batter government popularity

For the moment, the voters appear more convinced than the party members, inside the Commons and out. A MORI survey carried out for the Sun at the weekend suggested a staggering five per cent swing to Labour since the election last year, putting Labour on a 54 per cent rating. But only

change and reward Labour with another two in five of those questioned felt that five-year, full-term majority depends on Labour had kept its election promises on health, education and jobs, and an Inde-William Hague can lick his party into shape, pendent poll carried out by Harris Research found that only 49 per cent felt the Government had on balance been honest and trustworthy.

Yet the Prime Minister is unimpressed by polls like these: he believes strongly that if he and the Government do the right things, the voters will re-elect them. Neither party dissent, nor public conflict will deter him from the agenda he has set himself for welfare reform - the most ten-

new Labour

because B

deserves b

Labour

In his letter to party members, Mr Blair said: "It would be easy to put complex and controversial areas like welfare reform on March green paper: "Work for those who can; security for those who cannot."

dentious issue he could tackle as a Labour would deny that people have a responsibility to help provide for themselves when they can or that a job is the best route out of poverty for those who can work...

6 Our aim is to

fight poverty,

not increase it;

narrow social

division, not

widen it; and

opportunities,

not deny them ?

extend

"It is about delivering a more efficient the back burner. But if we are to make a system. Our aim is to fight poverty, not indifference, we need to start now." This fol- crease it; narrow social division, not widen lowed his comment in the foreword to the it; and extend opportunities, not deny them." The public and the party should not be deceived by that ready charm and the Now, party members are being told: "We shirt-sleeve style. Mr Blair intends to believe that society has a responsibility to change society, as he has changed his party, help people in genuine need, who are un- and as far as he is concerned, those that do able to look after themselves. But nobody not like it will have to lump it.

Brown's favourite words are

'prudent" and "long-term",

and this pledge smacks of both.

are the price of Labour's deter-

mination not to hit the middle

classes with higher income

taxes. Labour has not forgotten

the Tories' tax bombshell attack

The Chancellor has more or

less stuck to the promise not to

raise lucome tax, but it has

frayed slightly at the edges

because he has further reduced

the rate at which home buyers

get tax relief on their mortgage

interest payments and is also

phasing out the Married Cou-

Mr Brown has also raised oth-

er taxes, including employers' na-

tional insurance contributions for

higher-paid employees. The

future looks likely to hold other,

ples Allowance.

in the 1992 election.

Tough public spending plans

Pissor

# INDEPENDENT

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# Promises, promises – but have they been kept?

Keep this card and see that we keep our promise

PLEDGE 1: **CLASS SIZES** 

advance in fulfilling Tony Blair's promise to reduce class sizes for five, six and seven-year-olds to a maximum of 30 by the end of the Parliament: by September, a quarter of infants being taught in classes of more than 30.

The class reductions are possible because £22m being spent on benefiting around 100,000 children in 65 local authorities is coming from abolishing the Assisted Places Scheme, which subsidised pupils from poor backgrounds at fee-paying schools.

It will be comparatively easy to fulfil the first stage of the pledge, but councils expect problems in a couple of years as parents clamour for places at popular schools and are turned away because classes are too big.

Ministers issued guidelines this week urging authorities to expand popular schools rather than putting extra children in unpopular ones. However, it may not always be physically possible to build extra classrooms or adapt schools to meet parental demand

Difficulties may also arise if there are not enough extra children to make another class and the nearest alternative school is, say, five miles away. Will a school be able to persuade the parents of the 31st five-year-old to send her to the second school?

Pledge rating: 5/10 Judith Judd

Education Editor

PLEDGE 2: YOUNG OFFENDERS

THERE has been a significant IT WILL take until the end of the century before the full impact of new government powers to speed up youth justice is fully felt - although an order to the courts to sharpen up their ministers will have kept their act has already made its mark pledge to cut class numbers for on the time it takes for a case to be beard.

The Home Office has set a 71-day target time for dealing with a young offender from the point of arrest to sentencing the national average was 142 days in 1996 - but the legislation has yet to come into force.

Pilot schemes where courts will be set strict time limits and solicitors, probation officers, and the police could face fines for dragging their feet, will not start until October 1999. However, publication of "best practice" guidelines for courts seems to have spurred some magistrates into action. In North Hampshire, for example, the time from a young offender being charge to sentenced has

dropped from 133 days to 89. The key legislation, the Crime and Disorder Bill, will allow courts to lock up persistent child offenders as young as 12 while waiting for their cases to be heard. Other initiatives such as replacing repeat cautioning with a final warning, parenting orders, and child curfew orders, knock-on effect on the number

of teenagers going to court. For 12 month's work, Jack Straw's output is impressive. Pledge rating: 6/10

PLEDGE 3: NHS WAITING LISTS

MAXIMUM embarrassment to ministers and maximum pain to the Treasury is the legacy of the pledge to cut NHS hospital waiting lists by treating an extra 100,000. Instead of falling, the lists have risen by more than 100,000 in the past year and may rise further before they turn are also expected to have a around. The cost of meeting the pledge will take a sizeable

> retary, admitted six months after the election that waiting lists are like an oil tanker in being slow to turn around. But Crime Correspondent even he did not expect it to be

cut class sizes to 30 or under for 5, 6 and 7 year-olds
by using money from the assisted places scheme
by using money from the assisted places scheme
feast-track positionment for persistent young offenders
by helving the time from extest to sentencing
at 1983 waiting lists by treating as extra 100,000 patients
as a first step by releasing £100 million saved from NHS red tape
get 250,000 under 25 year-olds off benefit and into work
by using money from a windfall levy on the privatised utilities
no rise in income tax rates, cut VAT on heating to 5% and
inflation and interest rates as low as possible

chunk of the NHS budget. Frank Dobson, health sec-

so slow or so difficult to achieve. With waiting lists now standing at 1.3m - a record - he has pledged to reduce them to their pre-election level of 1.2m by the end of March 1999.

To meet this target, Mr Dobson is allocating £320m to health authorities in England for cutting Privately, ministers concede

that the waiting-list piedge was a mistake. Getting lists down is possible if you are prepared to throw money at the problem. Keeping them down is a harder, perhaps impossible, task,

Pledge rating: 0/10

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor There is a reason. Gordon

**EMPLOYMENT** 

GETTING 250,000 under-25year-olds off benefit and into work is one promise the Govemment was unable to keep for the most ironic of reasons: the economic recovery under the administration mopped up more than half the

potential "client group". When the pledge was made, some 250,000 young people between 18 and 24 had been out of work for six months or more. Now the "snapshot" figure for those who qualify for help is 118,000. Over the next 12 months, however, the Government expects 300,000 to go through its flagship New Deal scheme. By the end of the Parliament, Whitehall calculates that more than Im will have passed through the system. Presumably, the manifesto's prediction that they will all go "into work" should not be taken 100 literally.

the 18 to 24-year-olds has meant extra resources for other Welfare to Work programmes.

Ministers have been true to to it, the level of rates at 7.25 their word on the content of the per cent, and underlying infla-New Deal scheme, which will receive £2.6bn over the next four years from the windfall tax vious business cycles. from the privatised utilities. Piedge rating: 6/10

Barrie Clement

PLEDGE 5:

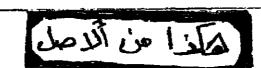
INCOME TAX NO INCOME tax rises, low interest rates and low inflation.

backdoor tax increases. The Chancellor's dramatic decision to let the Bank of England set interest rates is the means of delivering the rest of The money not used for the pledge. For all the controversy over the strong pound, and how much the five interest rate riscs since May have contributed

> tion at 2.6 per cent, is far lower than at the same stage of pre-These achievements depend on the legacy of improved economic management set in place by Kenneth Clarke, but the new Monetary Policy Committee should do an even betterjob

of keeping inflation and borrowing costs low Pledge rating: 8/10

> Diane Coyle Economics Editor



# Don Copland

DON COPLAND was one of founded in 1955 as the first nonthe most important figures to emerge in the field of spiritual healing in the last 20 years.

Having been brought up a Christian, over the years he expanded his interest into comparative religion and early Christian history, including the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Essenes. He investigated healing through the ages and this led him to his first healing encounter in 1968, when he healed his second wife, Audrey, of a chronic neck condition.

With the preamble "Well, it can't do any harm!", he held his hands over his wife's neck and in one session cured her of a year-old problem that had failed to respond to medical treatment. This success led him to train as a healer with the National Federation of Spiritual Healers; ities enabled him, with other and the words "It can't do any harm!" became a catchphrase.

Spiritual healing is the channelling of healing energies from a "divine source" through the healer to the patient, with the intention of boosting the body's own recuperative abilities to combat a wide range of physical and psychological conditions. A variety of research has been undertaken to demonstrate the scientific validity of healing, including studies on animals, plants and microorganisms, as well as humans. Results have indicated the existence of a real healing effect.

The National Federation of

denominational professional body for spiritual healing. Copland became a Healer Member of the NFSH in 1977 and in 1982, after two years as Vice-President, was elected President. He held this position for seven years, only relinquishing it to take on the full-time job of Administrator for seven years, after retiring from his job as a company director. His final tole in the NSFH was as Media

Consultant and Spokesperson. Copland's experience in business, running his own engineering company, Winvic Engineering, with two partners for more than 20 years, meant that he brought practical administrative skills to the NFSH as well as a deep spiritual commitment. These combined qualcolleagues, to transform the NFSH from a sleepy cash-

strapped "club" into the professional organisation that it is today - the largest spiritual healing charity in the world. He worked tirelessly to bring spiritual healing into mainstream acceptance, gaining the British Medical Association's approval of the NFSH Code of Conduct and helping to form the Confederation of Healing Organisations (CHO). He frequently appeared on

television and radio to explain the value of spiritual healing and was the subject of many newspaper and magazine articles attempts to produce measured evidence of the healing process, Copland's healing was monitored by Biofeedback Mind Mirrors (which measured brainwave changes in both Copland and his patient) and infrared cameras (which showed white light building up in his hands and passing into his patient), but the real proof of its efficacy was in his results.

He was a founder member of the NFSH Healer Training programme and was a gifted tutor, well-known for his relaxed yet informed approach and notorious for his jokes. His luck was also legendary: no healing fund-raiser or tombola was immune to his winning streak; he was constantly donating prizes

He wrote a definitive book in car rallies. on spiritual healing, So You Wani to Be a Healer? (1981), while his "Spiritual Reflections" column in the NFSH magazine Today) was one of its most popular features. He edited the magazine for many years and loved to write. He published several books of spiritual verse including Verses and Prayers for Children (1977). The Healer's Prayer which he wrote is used by healers throughout the country.

Don Copland was born in Lincoln in 1930. He was called up for National Service when he was 18 and spent a large proportion of it in Malaya during the bandit war. In his bureau Spiritual Healers (NFSH) was citing his healing successes. In he kept a scrunched-up bullet

which had flown in through the window of a troop train, hitting the seat behind his head. His love of Oriental food dated from this period and led to a general interest in cooking. He was also a keen garden-

er and his healing hands meant. that everything he grew was bigger and better; he used to say that be channelled healing through the water in the hosepipe. He was very practical and as well as building sets for years for Frank Muir's amateur dramatic company, the Thorpe Players, he also as a young man built a home from scratch on the banks of the River Thames near Chertsey, in Surrev. He was a talented sportsman, playing hockey and tennis, and also loved driving, especially

He had an affinity with animals and birds and found that they responded particularly well to healing. Several of his most Healing Review (now Healing recent "patients" were dogs, who sat as still and contented as could be while Copland's hands were laid over them.

**Ruth Copland** 

Donald Frank Copland, spiritual healer and businessman: bom Lincoln 25 November 1930; Vice-President, National Federation of Spiritual Healers 1980-82, President 1982-89, Administrator 1989-96; married 1954 Anne Taylor (one son; marriage dissolved 1964), 1964 Audrey Murr (one daughter; marriage dissolved 1986); died Camberley, Surrey 24



'It can't do any harm!' The proof of Copland's spiritual healing was in its results

# Armand Jammot



ress

exporter of television formats. Coming up with a top-rated educational game show and selling it to 15 foreign countries is a most unlikely feat. Yet Armand Jammot, the French television

producer and broadcaster, achieved this when he created Des Chiffres et Des Lettres in 1965.

Within a few years, Des Chiffres et Des Lettres could attract more viewers than the French football cup final, with a peak audience of 15 million. When Channel 4 launched in November 1982, the first programme transmitted was Countdown, a renamed version of the French show. Hosted by the brainy and now ubiquitous Carol Vorderman and the avuncular Richard Whiteley, the late afternoon programme is still going strong on British television and has recently spawned a hybrid, Celebrity Countdown, of which its original creator might not quite have approved.

mental arithmetics, Jammot, a veteran of French radio quizzes, devised a television show relying on both. The format was simple, yet effective: nine vowels and consonants drawn at random to spell the longest possible word, six numbers to be tabulated to reach or get close to a given figure in a race against the clock. Two contestants, a host, two judges to rule with a dictionary and a blackboard. Not even a pocket

Born in 1922, Jammot first worked as a journalist with the regional paper France Du Cen- 1960 while Les Risques du Métitre and then the national daily er, directed by André Cayatte L'Aurore. On his 33rd birthday, seven years later, gave Jacques he joined the French commer- Brel his film début as a teacher Well aware of the French cial radio station Europe 1 accused of rape by a pupil.

calculator in sight.

fondness for crosswords and and worked on audienceparticipation shows like Vous Etes Formidables! ("You're Amhelped people in need. The mid-Fifties were the golden age of French commercial radio and Jammot proved a natural. He launched Verdict, a programme which asked a panel of listeners to rule on a matter of conscience, before he was poached by a rival network, RTL.

He found time, too, to write two filmscripts: Le Passage du Rhin, directed by André Cayatte and featuring Charles Aznavour, won a Golden Lion in Venice in

In 1962, Jammot joined the sexuality, collaboration under newly launched television station Antenne 2 and devised a azing!"), on which listeners variety of shows which would eventually constitute up to 35 per cent of the channel's output. Des Chiffres et Des Lettres of course, but also the daily magazine show Aujourd hui Madame and, most famously, Les Dossiers de l'Ecran ("The Small Screen Files"). The show, which ran from 1967 to 1991, gave over the whole evening schedule to a specific theme. A feature film opened proceedings, followed trick with the actor Yves Monby a studio debate with experts and and nearly convinced the and a viewer-phone-in. Though

operating in a still tightly con-

trolled broadcasting environ-

ment, Les Dossiers de l'Ecran

President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing to answer questions from a live studio audience. Jammot then successfully repeated the

in Algeria. Audience interest

often caused the studio switch-

Jammot considered that "télé-

tension of the broadcaster's

coming director of programmes

boards to collapse.

monstre sacré to run for office. But Jammot never pushed managed to tackle issues like drug-taking, prostitution, homo-

world. I recall in particular a

mad and illegal assault on

Mount Etna in September 1994.

The peak of Etna was off lim-

its, since it had swallowed up a

group of German tourists a

few months before, but Blu-

menthal was not to be put off,

and talked Andrew Smith and

myself into joining him. We

form." Instead, he thought up more shows, such as Ya un Truc the Vichy régime and the war ("There's a Trick"), L'Homme du 20ème Siècle ("20th-Century Man"), La Bourse aux Idées ("Stock Exchange for Ideas") and, with the help of his son participation" was a natural ex-

Maurice, devised dozens of

public mandate. In 1976, after beboard games. Jammot retired in the early Nineties and courageously at Antenne 2, he convinced fought a cancer which weakened his body but not his vision. "Of course, I still have ideas. When I run out of them, you can write my obituary!" he said.

Armand Jammot, television and rahimself in front of the cameras: dio producer, broadcaster, journal-"It's not in my nature to appear ist and board-game inventor: bom on television. I don't have the Alfortville, France 4 April 1922; temperament necessary to per- married; died Paris 19 April 1998.

should have devoted his career

so successfully to the study of

Neoplatonism, but he did. Per-

haps the presence of Aristotle.

with whose views he would

have been more in sympathy,

made things more congenial.

John Dillon

# Ramakant Desai

RAMAKANT DESAI was a medium-fast bowler who always looked both undersized and underweight for the job, first appearing in England in 1959, as if from school, at the age of 19. He bowled and he bowled, contributing 600 of the 1,500 overs delivered by the opening attack (with Surendra Nath) on that tour. India won only seven of their 35 matches, losing 11, but "Tiny" Desai never lost his smile.

He had won his tour place after an outstanding début season for Bombay in which he had taken 50 Ranji Trophy wickets at an average of 11 with his right-arm attack, developing outswing from a textbook approach and delivery. Chosen for his first Test match in Delhi, in the final match against the powerful West Indies, he bowled 49 overs to take 4-169 in a score of 644-8.

"He had rare ability and it was a pity that he had to be brought to England almost straight out of junior cricket," grumbled Wisden's report of the following tour. "He possessed that very rare attribute of being able to bowl outswingers to right-hand batsmen and had endless courage. He found himself terribly overworked in the Tests: the Leeds crowd must have wondered from where he found his stamina as he toiled with little respite." John Arlott wrote of him

that year: "Desai, who reached the age of 20 during the Lord's Test, commanded a peak of pace surprising in a man only nine stones in weight and he concealed a disconcerting bumper."

English crowds then and now respect cheerful effort, especially against the odds, and "Tiny" was an immensely pooular cricketer, admitting that all his hard travail in England also brought much learning. Desai became a regular selection for India during the next decade, touring West Indies, Australasia, Pakistan and New Zealand and two more visits to England.

Against Pakistan he returned 8-190 in Delhi and his best bowling was 6-56 against New Zealand in Bombay. In all



Desai: rare outswingers

he took 74 Test wickets at an average of 37 and also shares the Indian record ninth-wicket partnership with Padmanabh Joshi. 149 against Pakistan in 1960-61. "I rate him among our four best, along with Dattu Phadkar, Kapil Dev and Javagal Srinath," said Raj Singh Dungapur, President of the Board of

Control. In later years Desai went into business and only recently resigned as chairman of selectors.

Ramakant Bhikaji Desai, cricketer: born Bombay 20 June 1939; died

# **Professor Henry Blumenthal**

HENRY BLUMENTHAL was a leading British scholar in the area of Neoplatonism, one of a small band of pioneers, including his friends John Rist and Denis O'Brien, who emerged from Cambridge in the early 1960s as students of F.H. Sandbach, so eminently broad-minded that he let them pursue such an odd bird as the philosopher Plotinus.

Of these three, only Blumenthat remained to fly the flag of Neoplatonism in England, Rist moving to Toronto and O'Brien to Paris, Taken on in Liverpool in 1965 by the father of Neoplatonic studies in Britain, Hilary Armstrong, Blumenthal went on to succeed him, and to become himself the senior figure in the field.

in 1936, and attended Mill Hill School in London before going on, after National Service in the RAF, to Trinity College, Cambridge, whence he graduated in the Classical Tripos in 1960, with Philosophy and Linguistics as his special topics. After a year in Paris, he returned to Cambridge to do a PhD, which he gained in 1964. The topic, a study of Plotinus' psychology, was published in due course as Plotinus' Psychology: his doc-

on the subject in England. Plotinus' doctrine in this and complex, and its ramifica-

trines of the embodied soul

(1971), and was immediately

hailed as the authoritative work

Henry Blumenthal was born tions continued to exercise Blumenthal throughout his career. Indeed, he left behind him an almost complete commentary on Plotinus' major essay "Problems of the Soul" (Enneads IV 3-5), which we must hope will see the light of day.

He expanded from this to a comprehensive knowledge of every aspect of Neoplatonic psychology, based as it is on valiant attempts to reconcile Aristotelian doctrine, as expressed in the De Anima, with that of Plato, with which it might seem to be in flat contradiction. In a long series of articles, over a quarter of a century (many of which were area is in fact peculiarly subtle gathered together in his 1993 tion of Aristotle in general collection Soul and Intellect), a remarkable phenomenon,



Blumenthal continued to explore various aspects of this, and of the Neoplatonic recep-

with many consequences source of fun and inspiration to the soul, or indeed of the exisfor medieval and later philos- a host of colleagues around the tence of a transcendent deity. ophy. This resulted ultimately in a comprehensive study published in 1996, Aristotle and Neoplatonism in Late Antiquity.

Following a brief stint at Mount Allison University in Canada (where he met his wife Anna), Blumenthal secured an appointment as Lecturer in Greek at Liverpool, and remained there for the rest of his working life, rising from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer to Reader, and then, from 1983, Head of Department. In 1997, to the pleasure of his many friends and admirers, he was ho-

noured with a personal chair. Though troubled periodically by illness, he was a great persuaded of the immortality of died Catania, Sicily 23 April 1998. | Bombay 28 April 1998.

slipped away from our guided tour, and got away with it, but we might well not have - especially as Blumenthal contrived to slip at one point in our deout of the mist. It may seem strange that a

man who personally was not doughter, one foster daughter);

Henry Jacob Blumenthal, classical scholar, born Leipzig, Germany 30 March 1936; Lecturer in Greek, Liverpool University 1965-74. Senior Lecturer 1974-78, Reader 1978-97, Head of Department of Greek (latscent and somersaulted past me er Classics and Archaeology) 1983-90. Professor 1997-98: married 1966 Anna Rosner (one son, one

Derek Hodgson

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BLUMENTHAL: Professor Henry. Jacob, MA PhD (Cantab): A thanks-riving for the hie and work of Pro-iessor Blumenthal will be held at the Bowler Har Hotel. Talbot Road, Ox-ture. Birdsrahead, on Monday 4 May ton, Birkenhead, on Monday 4 May at 230pm. Enqueries to 0151-647

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazatte Editor, The Independent I Connect Source Connect Memorial Memortam) should be independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 SDL, telephoned to 0171-293 2012 (24-bour answering machine 6771-293 2013) or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at 66-50 a line (VAT extra.) OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at 600 a line, VAT extra. They chould be accompanied by a daytime should be accompanied by a daycime relephone number.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Dulin of Glomester, Particle Months Per-turbed all first attends the first absolute Per-turbed at the first attends the first absolute.

Changing of the Guard The Hausthold County Monard Regiment for Hausthold County Monard Regiment mount the Opens Life transity forms Gaustia Hart Branch Patrick's Cartain a Society form to count the Queen's Guards of the Iroh Palace, Halam hand provide to the Iroh Gausti

#### Birthdays

Mr Naim Attalah, publisher, 67; Sir Richard Brooke, chartered accountant, 83; Mr Steve Cauthen, jockey, 38; Mr Ian Curteis, playwright, 63; Lord Dahrendorf, former Warden, St Antony's College, Oxford, 69; Sir Heary de Waal QC, 67; Mr Glenn Ford, actor, 82; Dr Michael Goldstein, Vice-Chancellor, Coventry University, 59; Sir Irvine Goulding, former High Court judge, 88; Mr Joseph Heller, novelist, 75; Mr W Leonard Hyde, former president, Leeds Permanent Building Society, 84; Professor Philip King, sculptor, 64; Miss Joanna Lumley, actress, 52; Sir Bruce McPhail, managing director, P & O, 59; Mr Bo Nilsson, composer, 61; Mr Archie Norman MP, 44; Air Commodore Dame Felicity Peake, first Director, WRAF-85; Sir Lindsay Ring, former Lord Mayor of London, 84; Col Sir Greville Spratt, former Lord Mayor of London, 71; Miss Una Stubbs, actress, 61; Miss Wendy Toye, theatrical producer, 81; Lord Watson of Invergowrie, former MP, 49; Professor Richard Welhourn, Emeritus Professor of Surgical Endocrinology, Royal Post-graduate Medical School, London University, 79, Sir John Wheeler, for-mer MP, 58; Admiral Sir John Wood-

Naval Home Command, 66. **Anniversaries** 

Births: Jules-Adolphe Aimé-Louis Breton, painter, 1827, Marie Corelli (Mary Mackay). novelist, 1855. Deaths: John Dryden, poet, 1700; David Livingstone, missionary and ex-

ward, former Commander-in-Chief,

plorer, 1873. On this day: the Union of Scotland and England was pro-claimed, 1707; the London Library was officially opened, 1841; in New York, the Empire State Building was opened, 1931. Today is May Day (Labour Day) and the Feast Day of St Amator or Amatre, St Briocus or Brieuc, St Joseph the Worker, St Peregrine Laziosi, St Sigismund of Burgundy and St Theodard of

Lectures

National Gallery: Stella Gambling, "Gardens (i): Lancret, A Lady in a Garden taking Coffee with some Children", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Patricia Baker, "Chinese Tomb Figures", 2.30pm.

Tate Gallery: June Redfern and Colin Wiggins, "Artists on Bonnard",

Gresham College, Barnard's Inn. Hall, London EC1: Professor Colin Pillinger, "Carbon Skeletons or Chemical Fossils", 1pm.

Synagogue services

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Subbath begins in London at 8.09pm.

United Synagogues: 0181-343 8989. Federation of Synagogues: 0181-202 2263. Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues: 0171-580 1663. Reform Synagogues: 0171-580 1663. Reform Synagogues of Great Britchin 0181-349 4731. Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation: 0171-289 2573. New London Synagogue (Masorti): 0171-328 1026.

#### LAW REPORT: 1 MAY 1998

# Tenant must pay rent due at date of order

Maryland Estates Ltd v Bar-Joseph and another; Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Beldam and Mrs Justice Bracewell) 23 April

THE COUNTY court had power under section 138(3) of the County Courts Act 1984 to order a tenant against whom possession was claimed for non- and for an order that the repayment of rent to pay not only rent due at the date of service of the writ, but also rent payable up to the date of the order.

The Court of Appeal allowed the appellant's appeal against an order made in the county court in possession proceedings against the respondents.

The appellant was the freethe respondents, who fell into arrears in payment of the rent and service charges. The appellant issued proceedings in date of service of the writ. His rears had to be paid without new lease".

the High Court claiming pos- order was confirmed by the limiting or qualifying the arrears of rent and service charges up to and including 25 December 1994.

The proceedings were remitted to the county court, and second respondent; the first respondent in October 1996 the appellant applied for a declaration that it was entitled to possession, spondents should give up possession unless, within 28 days of judgment, they paid the rent and service charges claimed, and also sums falling due since the County Courts Act Amendissue of the summons in respect

of rent and service charges. made a declaration in the appellant's favour, but considered that he had no power under hold owner of premises let to section 138(3) of the County tion 138 of the 1984 Act. Sec- section 138(5) provided that Courts Act 1984 to order the tion 52 made it clear that at the tenant granted relief conrespondents to pay more than each stage of the proceedings tinued to hold the land "acthe arrears of rent due at the for possession all the rent in ar- cording to the lease without any in the order.

appellant appealed. Nicholas Dowding QC (Malthouse

Chevalier) for the appellant; Arthur I. Moore (Jim McKenzie & Co) for the did not appear and was not represented.

Lord Justice Beldam said

that the issue turned on the interpretation of the phrase "all the rent in arrears" in section 138(3) of the 1984 Act. The wording of section 52 of the ment Act 1856, which itself largely followed the language The deputy district judge used in section 212 of the 1852, was undoubtedly the statutory forerunnner of sec-

session of the premises, and ar- county court judge. The rears to those due when the summons was issued. In construing the words of

section 138 of the 1984 Act it

was important not to lose sight of the purpose of the Act, which was to grant relief against forfeiture. The court should not resort to a literal construction of words which had been given a purposive interpretation in Acts granting similar relief unless driven to do so.

Moreover, the county court judge's construction depended upon the theory that the lease was in a state of suspended animation and was only revived Common Law Procedure Act when the order of the court granting relief from forfeiture was complied with. However,

The implication of the judge's approach was that if the tenant continued to hold under the terms of the lease, and did not pay rent during the period between the service of the summons and the making of the judge's order, he would at once be in breach of covenant, for further rent would be in arrears and the lease would be liable to be forfeited immediately. The landlord could commence proceedings and the whole procedure would start again.

Such an inconvenient result was easily avoided if it was assumed that the lease continued to exist after service of the summons on the tenant, that he remained under an obligation to pay the sum reserved in the lease as rent, and that all the rent in arrears meant the rent payable up to the date stated

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

# INDEPENDENT

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# Sinn Fein will have to get real

IT IS time for the IRA to hand in its arms. We have said it before and we say it again. It has, of course, always been true and the IRA has never been likely to do it. But now it is more important than ever, and we are approaching the point when the IRA fantasy of the "armed struggle" has to collide with reality. Something has to give.

The Good Friday agreement made a republican case for disarmament: it offers the IRA its best chance of achieving its aim of getting British "troops out", as part of a process of multilateral disarmament by which it, at the same time, gives up its weapons. There is, of course, no moral equivalence between IRA terrorism and the British armed services, but there is a practical equation. If the IRA retains its weapons, the loyalist paramilitaries will keep theirs, and the British Army will stay. Violence will continue, and the republican cause will be further marginalised.

However, the IRA cannot be forced to hand over its Armalites, mortars and Semtex, and shows no sign of even thinking about doing so. Its statement yesterday was categoric. "There will be no decommissioning by the IRA." In effect, it said that there would be no disarmament until the "end of British rule in Ireland", which might as well be "not ever". As John Hume, leader of the constitutional nationalists, has said, there is a "no surrender" mentality on both sides in Ulster. Mr Hume told this newspaper recently that he could not imagine the IRA ever handing its guns to the British government. He does think it is possible, though, that the issue could be handled by the international body set up to oversee decommissioning. But it is hard to be optimistic, and it is even harder to predict any movement before the election of the Northern Ireland assembly.

So, what then? The question of decommissioning was the greyest of the grey areas in the Good Friday agreement, but was a necessary gap which allowed the rest of the deal to be stuck together. At the last minute, at lunch time on Good Friday, the Unionists raised the issue of whether Sinn Fein leaders would be able to serve as ministers in the assembly while the IRA was fully armed. The Prime Minister jotted down a letter to David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, promising to "support changes" to the agreement if its provisions for excluding people linked to terrorism turned out to be "ineffective", and the deal was struck.

The letter has been condemned colourfully by Ian Paisley's crew as being worth no more than Neville Chamberlain's piece of paper. Predictable propaganda, of course, but there is the beginning of a credibility problem here. What if Ireland, north and south, votes yes in the referendum in three weeks' time? What if Sinn Fein is elected to the assembly and Gerry Adams seeks to join the power-sharing executive? What then?

Well, if the IRA will not give up any weapons, Sinn Fein is going to have some explaining to do. So far, most of the pressure in this process has been on Mr Trimble and the Unionists, and it is infinitely to Mr Trimble's credit that he has stayed with it and reversed the traditional abstentionist stance of Unionism. Now the spotlight is going to swing back to the republicans.

No one believes Sinn Fein's protestation that it and the IRA are separate organisations. No one expects Gerry Adams to dissociate himself from the IRA. He has engaged in some extraordinary double-talk to embrace the ballot box without condemning the bullet, but the moment of truth is near. He ransacked the thesaurus to avoid "condemning" the IRA murders which had him suspended from the peace talks earlier this year. He "regretted" them, as he regretted all killings, and, more significantly, called them "wrong". But if he wants to serve as a minister in the assembly, he will have to affirm his commitment to non-violence, and promise to "use any influence [he] may have to achieve the decommissioning of all paramilitary arms within two years".

That is what it says in the Good Friday agreement which Sinn Fein has not exactly signed up to, but gone along with. Mr Blair has, rightly, appeased republican sentiment, as part of a strategy of kicking away, one by one, the moral crutches which support armed republicanism. But now he has to lean on Mr Adams to repudiate the use or threat of force for political ends in more explicit terms. Sinn Fein must take the first step towards achieving the "demilitarisation" it claims to seek.

# Brew Labour's millennium beer tent

MY GOODNESS! Just in case all you Brew XI drinkers, Ruddlers and Tetley bittermen out there were worrying, we can now confirm that you will indeed be able to get a drink at the Millemium Dome. What's more, you'll be offered a wide range of real ales. This is extremely refreshing news, and, we suspect, will work wonders for the popularity of the Donie project.

It has long been the chant of his bitterest critics that Peter "it's my round" Mandelson, the minister responsible for the project, couldn't organise a pissup in a brewery. Well, he is the last person to be found crying into his beer and he has boldly decided to restore a bit of London pride. The "Inn at the Dome" will be a showcase for British brewing and will feature a new ale, called Mandy's Revenge. Don't drink too much of this, though, or you will soon find the room, and perhaps much else, spinning around you. Mind you, it might be that bit easier to find tranquillity in the Dreamscape exhibition or use the Body Zone in order, as the organisers say, to "explore the dramatic impact of lifestyle choices on the way our bodies behave and perform".

All in all it is a shrewd move by the Minister Without Portfolio But With A Drink In His Hand. He has an opportunity to show how "Brew Labour" can refresh the parts of the body politic that other parties cannot reach. Traditionally the brewers have been the allies of the Conservative Party. Mr Mandelson might be tempting them into New Labour's "big tent" through the organisation of this grandiose beer tent. In any case we will soon be enjoying probably the best booze-up in the world.



#### Mary Bell

HOWEVER dark the detail of Mary Bell's crimes and childhood, however repugnant the issue of payment, the plain fact is that we urgently must come to understand the intergenerational transmission of abuse and brutality which has created the culture of violence in which we presently live. The extremes are most often the ground on which we learn.

Other less publicised sadistic abuse cases are thrown out of courts as improbable, because the general public, including lawyers, juries and doctors, read newspapers and see no detail of the blacker depravities of human behaviour. It is a journalistic duty, these are the same people who are however unpleasant, to lay these always pretending to support moral open to scrutiny and investigation without prurience. Satiation and revulsion are inevitable but we need to focus if there is any hope of finding even partial long-term solutions. MARJORIE ORR

Director Accuracy about Abuse London NW3

I WOULD not attempt to justify Mary Bell's crimes, but I do not believe that it is reasonable to put her fee on a par with a criminal who enjoys the proceeds of crime.

Mary was not paid for committing the crimes. She was paid for agreeing - long after she had completed her sentence - to discuss the circumstances in which the crimes were committed. That is quite different from allowing a drug dealer, a professional murderer, or a professional robber to enjoy the proceeds of his or her crime. I fail to see how Mary's fee could provide an incentive for other potential child murderers.

RITA HALE

AS YOU comment in your leading article (30 April), cycles of childhood abuse and cruelty are repeated endlessly. If Mary Bell has succeeded thus far in providing her 14-year-old daughter with loving care, is this not a matter of some hope? And doesn't she and those who over the years have tried to help her deserve some credit? JOHN MITCHELL

London SE13

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

SO THE tabloids have found Mary Bell and forced her and her child to flee. Will any of the reporters or editors of these papers be prosecuted for child abuse? Naturally not. Will any proceeds of this story go to charity? What a foolish idea. What has happened with all the promises to protect privacy? Ignored when they are in the way of a good story. And values, the responsible adults who attack a woman for a crime she committed as a child 30 years ago. HERBERT SOTTUNG Friedrichsdorf, Germany

I ONCE knew Mary Bell's address and was approached by scores of journalists each arguing that if she gave her story it would be a unique opportunity to let everyone know she was now a different person, trying to lead a normal life. I found the only escape

was to deny all knowledge of her. The newspapers gleefully ripping her apart for accepting a few thousand pounds are the ones which would have offered ten times as much for an exclusive. What cynical swines newshounds can be (I was a journalist myself). KEN NORMAN

Bowness-on-Solway, Cumbria

IT WOULD appear, in the wake of the comments by the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary on the Mary Bell affair, that the people's princess was pursued by the people's MARK TREGLOWN

Join the euro club

FOR A moment when I read John Redwood's article "When the new tills ring" (27 April) I thought he must for investment in Europe, where corbe visiting from another planet.

Most interesting from a former DTI minister is the idea that wicked foreign companies "may decide that this is the time to force the British sup- investment opportunities will be Ministry of Defence

plier to take the currency risk". In fact, British companies have bid and paid in German marks, French francs, US dollars etc for decades, in order to remain competitive. And for just as long, a forward foreign exchange contract has helped them to hedge the risk. It's not a euro issue - it's daily business.

But wait - surely the best way to avoid this problem of exchange risks everyone can avoid paying exchange laissez-faire doctrines of the US. rate premiums to those nasty foreign exchange dealers.

Mr Redwood's obsession robs him of the vision which other nations such as the Austrians have. They are already dual-pricing in euro, and quoting euro equivalents in their daily papers - even on the stock market pages - to prepare their people nine months before the currency is even introduced. They will use the change to accelerate the gradual move away from the 19th-century medium of notes and coin, with its risk of forgery and convenient untraceability, and towards electronic payment by debit card and the electronic purse.

Oh, for politicians who can see the potential of an inevitable idea rather than fighting to preserve a better yesterday!

PAUL G RATCLIFFE Tunbridge Wells, Kent

ONE UNDERSTANDS that it is one of the roles of a serious journalist to provoke thought, to suggest the implausible and to question accepted wisdom. However, Hamish McRae (Comment, 22 April), surely had his tongue firmly in his cheek in suggesting that Britain would be as well off economically in the North American Free Trade Area (Nafta) it would be as a full member of the euro dub.

It is true that historically the UK has invested heavily in North America. But in future the opportunities orate rationalisation and consolidation has a long way to go before reaching the mature state of the US economy, will be far greater. These

greatly enhanced by economic and monetary union. They would not be duplicated on the same scale by membership of Nafta if the UK re-

mained a sterling island in a large US

Equally, I would suggest, the cultural affinity between Britain and the rest of Europe, based on shared historic moral and social values, is is to join the single currency. Then stronger than our identity with the

firm intention to join EMU as soon as possible, preferably before the next general election. This would ease pressure on the pound. It is, of course, a good idea to have a plan B up one's sleeve; it should be to commit the UK to joining EMU as soon as economically possible after 2002.

Any other solution would relegate

the UK to a very minor role in world affairs. It is a kind suggestion of Mr Gingrich, but I suspect that once we were inside Nafta the Americans would eat us for breakfast. **NEIL MONTGOMERY.** Woodbridge, Suffolk

#### Arms catalogue

IN HER piece on the Oxfam report about arms sales (23 April) Fran Abrams refers to a catalogue from the Defence Export Services Organisation which lists eight UK companies involved in the manufacture and supply of small arms and ammunition, and compares this with a list of 120 companies identified by Oxfam.

I should clarify that this apparent disparity is because the catalogue in question, a commercial publication produced in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence, is designed to publicise British companies and products. It is not intended as a comprehensive list. It is entirely up to companies themselves as to whether they wish to be included. **OONA MUIRHEAD** 

Director of Information Strategy and

BSE mystery

THE DEATH of Clare Tomkins from CJD is very sad and very puzzling ("Vegetarian dies after battle against CJD", 23 April). Clare is not the first vegetarian to have contracted this disease allegedly caught by eating beef. We may be barking up the wrong tree.

More and more evidence indicates that BSE may not be caused by cattle feed but by exposure to organophosphate pesticides which attack the nervous system and are widely used in farming and horticulture. Large doses were compulsorily used on cattle to kill warble flies.

It has not been scientifically proved that BSE can be transmitted Plan A should be to declare our to people by eating beef. This speculation has grown because the symptoms of CID victims are similar to those in BSE-affected cattle. There is evidence to suggest that CJD victims may have been directly exposed to these pesticides through their work and have been particularly susceptible to their harmful effects. Clare Tomkius worked with animals which may well have been treated to kill parasites. For example, flea sprays and flea collars are impregnated with organophosphates.

This evidence, which has not been thoroughly investigated so far, may throw new light on the BSE crisis. TERESA GORMAN MP (Billerica), C)

House of Commons

#### Top to bottom

AS I WAS taught at Cambridge in 1935 by a former Survey of India geodesist, the real problem about the height of Mount Everest (Stephen Goodwin's Everest Diary, 30 April) is not defining the top (which the Chinese did with their metal tripod) but the bottom, five hundred miles from the nearest sea. JOHN WRIGHT West Wittering, West Sussex

#### Bite on exports

TWO depressing items on 30 April. British companies not interested in a new British breakthrough in dental care. And a huge deficit on our manufactured goods. When will we learn? ROBERT DAVIES London SE3

# Campbell, Blunkett and Fayed join the playground skipping circle



Doctor, doctor, Spin me a line. If I'm ill, Tell me I'm fine. Say the same thing If I'm dyin', Doctor, doctor. Spin me a line.

JUST ONE of the many modern playground thymes which seem to be based on modern political reality, as I have found out in my rhyme-collecting in schools round the country. Some of the Labour spin-doctors are even mentioned by name in the odd verse, as in this one:-Dr Campbell went for a ramble In a shower of rain. He shouted and raved Till the weather behaved

And it never rained again.

It seems extraordinary that Alastair Campbell's legendary rudeness should have percolated through to school children, though it seems to show that education gets through somehow. Indeed, children have their own views on education, as this skipping rhyme demonstrates:-Homework at morning

Homework at night. All this homework Can't be right. Try this homework On David Blunkett, If HE can't do it We'll just junk it.

I mentioned yesterday a short rhyme about London's new mayor, which

prompted one reader to send me this, heard at her local school:-Oh, who will be boss of London town? Who will be mayor when the chips are down? "I," said Ken, "I am the man. I can rule London if anyone can. For I was head of the GLC And everyone remembers me!" "I," said Jeff, "So please give me My last chance to make history! For I was head of the Tory party And I am rich, and my wife is arty ... But when Ken and Jeff had had their say Everybody looked the other way. All on the left avoided Ken's eye. All on the right whispered, "Why Jeff? WHY?"

It's nice to see a bit of narrative element in modern playground rhymes, and

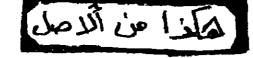
too, which seems to be about Tiny Rowland and Mohammed Al Fayed. Tiny Row had a safe deposit box In Harrods, where gentlemen buy their socks, And in this box his secrets lay And what they were, no one could say But Harrods belonged to Big Fat Mo Who (allegedly) longed to know What Tiny Row had locked away. And so I'm rather afraid to say That Big Fat Mo, allegedly, Got an X-ray scanner to see (This, we stress, is sub judice, And belongs to the realm of theory) Through the walls and right inside To see what Tiny had got to hide. All he saw was a billet doux Saying, "I'm British, unlike you!" This made Mo as mad as hell, there's an element of story in the next one Saying, "I'll soon be British as well!"

"No," said Tony, "No," said the Queen, "Being Egyptian's more your scene."

Room for just two more short ones. Dr Jack banned beef on the bone Because of a risk Of a million to one. Will Dr Jack come smiling through? No, not by a chance Of a million to two.

John had a euro, Shiny new euro, John had a euro in his hat. John went shopping And paid with his euro; Said the shopman to Johnny: " 'Ere , what's THAT?"

More one day soon, I sope.





**ANDREW** MARR

ON MARY BELL AND THE BRITISH PRESS

THIS is not another article about Mary Bell. It is about the rest of us, and in particular the press. We are supposed to be living in a gentler, calmer country - "Cool Britannia" - a nation blandly at ease with itself, basking in the semi-perpetual smile of its young leader. The old cruelties and savagery are behind us; life may be duller than in the Eighties, but it

Now comes the Hunt for Mary, a savage and pointless episode which disgraces tabloid journalism and makes hypocrites of broadsheet people too. Let us review its successes so far.

Success one: on Wednesday night, a 14year-old girl's life was suddenly turned upside down when she learned her mother had killed two boys at the age of eleven. She discovered this traumatic fact not gently or at a time of her mother's choosing, but because her house was surrounded by journalists in the middle of the night. Now that girl is stuck in police custody with no idea of what will happen next. This is a great thing to happen in a civilised and caring country, isn't it?

Success two: the families of Mary Bell's victims, who have by all accounts been living damaged lives ever since the 1968 murders, have had their privacy and fragile peace smashed apart. There is a Richardson grandson who didn't know he had an uncle, killed at the age of four, until a couple of weeks ago. Why is their pain stirred up? Because Gitta Sereny, The Times and then other papers decided the motives of the killer were so interesting that the victims' families' feelings must come sec-

Success three: some newspapers have been sold on the back of this. Not very many, though. The tabloids were estimating no sigmificant effect on their sale during the first couple of days of the story, though that could change now, while of the broadsheets, only The Times itself has seen any real rise. Even then, we are probably talking about 14-20,000 per day, or around 2-3 per cent, over a little too courageous for New Labour. Betthe first couple of days, which is small beer ter go for the elderly author with the funny by its standards. Perhaps this is one of those accent and the anonymous killer, the monster. but which leave most normal people cold.

This newspaper has reported the story, and that's our job; but we are bitterly unhappy that the story is running at all. It might have been all right had the original Times book deal stopped there; but the payment of Mary Bell has given worse papers their excuse to dig her

Particularly disgraceful was The Sun, which gave a fistful of clues to the Bell family's whereabouts. The paper then published a letter from the two victims' families to Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, which concluded that Bell "should be found, named and shamed into paying back this money". I'm all for shamed, though she has been already, and for her paying her money to charity. But why "found"? What is the point of "found" unless to mob

The payment question is real, of course. Happy, everyone?

There is something distasteful in the paying of criminals for their stories, however harrowing they find the business of retelling the past. Was it worth paying this person? In my view, no. I think Gitta Sereny is guilty of overstating the importance of her book and what

And her explanation why she paid Bell is at best grossly naive. Sereny said, in a letter to the victims' families that "If I hadn't done so, I would have made myself guilty of done to her virtually since she was born: to use her." Yet Bell, and more importantly, Bell's daughter is being used. Sereny was, literally, the author behind a chain of completely predictable events - serialisation, outrage, pursuit which have probably destroyed that damaged family's last hopes of happiness or normality. What do a few thousand quid mean compared to that?

Bizarrely, though, the Government's reaction to this story has missed the point entirely. Instead of focussing on the way in which a media hunt was spreading the damage in the Bell family to yet another generation, and stirring up the victims' families' memories, the Prime Minister attacked the financial deal. "I cannot instinctively feel it is right that someone should make money out of crimes that are absolutely appalling," said Tony Blair.

It's a perfectly reasonable view - unchallengeable, even – though it applies just as much to many other crime exploitation wheezes that go unchallenged, such as the use of Mad Frankie Frazer to advertise a disgustingly sug-

In fact, to focus on the original Mary Bell crimes and Sereny's decision to pay her, rather than the bounding of the family now, Blair was taking the easy option. He was confirming the tabloid agenda rather than challenging it. Jack Straw, another thoroughly decent man, might, as Home Secretary, have said something about the media frenzy, particularly since his own family have endured something similar. Instead he shored up the Sun's self-righteous populism by replying to the parents in an open letter.

What should Mr Blair have done? He might have questioned the decision to serialise the book in the first place, thus creating the media frenzy that ensued. If he'd taken a bigger canvas, he should, and could, have suggested that we must eschew language about "monsters" and realise that abuse creates abuse, cruelty provokes cruelty. To understand is not always to forgive, but it gives hope. That would have been an act of genuinely Christian leadership,

But even if all that's asking too much, the Prime Minister certainly should have attacked papers like The Sun for coming close to breaking the law in homing in on the Bell home. But that, of course, would have been an anti-Murdoch act. This was all, it seems, seemingly so engrained that they cannot be evaded, even by a government as popular as

There are no heroes in this story. Crass exploitation of human misery is our real theme. whether it masquerades as high-minded social analysis or indulges in the language of the lynch mob. Editors followed the scent of money, and acted as right humbuggers the while. Politicians followed their new masters in the press, instead of stopping and thinking and giving a real lead. The author, Gitta Sereny doesn't seem to have written a book-so extraordinary that all this misery is justified; yet her common-sense attitude to why evil happens is still infinitely preferable to the rantings about monsters and revenge.

In the end money and arrogance have merely made a few sad lives a little bit worse.

# First years don't prove a thing look to Labour history ...



BEN PIMLOTT

THE OMENS FOR BLAIR

CONSENSUSES are funny. When one is really raging, it is hard for anybody to stand outside it without appearing ridiculous. At present, such a consensus exists about the Blair government. Observers acknowledge Tony Blair's exceptional luck, but they are virtually unanimous in their appreciation of his political skills. One year after taking office, practically everyhody has become New Labour - even Margaret Thatcher. William Hague seems the most New Labour of the lot.

The admiration is probably justified. If the Government has been lucky - suicidal Tory party, buoyant economy, US president desperately in need of a friend, and so on -well, in politics, you make your own luck, and Blair has exploited his own good fortune with exquisite adroitness. The reward has been a worldwide popularity unmatched for a British politician since the days of Churchill. It is extraordinary, and heartening, to see the way tables are turned. Other countries (Germany, Japan), with their economies in the doldrums, wonder what the secret is, and want a Blair too.

Yet trouble-free episodes in British politics have been so rare and brief that it is hard not to find something eerie about the present milipond. If the Prime Minister has ordered his courtiers to keep anniversary celebrations sotte voce, his caution may well be prudent, as in so many other things.

trajectory? Possibly. But if so, the break with precedents will have to be emphatic. For the truth is that Labour honeymoons have always ended in tears.

The earliest comparison is with Ramsay MacDonald, Labour's first-ever premier, who took office in January 1924, and was the only previous premier to have had no prior government experience.

MacDonald was physically imposing, prone to morallyuplifting rhetoric, good at diplomacy, a commanding figure in his party, dismissive of the Left. good with the upper classes, and Scottish, Like Blair, he strove to turn Parliament into a grand

Clement Attlee's 1945 victory led to a miraculous year, followed by an 'annus horrendus' council of state rather than a confrontational arena, and quickly disposed of media wor-

ries about Labour's fitness to govern. His first few months were a great relief to Buckingham Palace, which harboured a suspicion that a Labour government might lead to a Bolshevik revolution. However, the analogy ends there. Labour's minority status made the Government depen-

dent on the Liberals, who quickly pulled the rug out, forcing an autumn election. Thus, the first Labour administration had no complete first year. The second MacDonald administration (May 1929 to August 1931) had to cope from the outset with the fallout from the Wall Street stock-market crash, Unemployment soared, and the government's anniversary was marked by the resignation of Sir Oswald Mosley - the first of a series of splits that culminated

A different comparison is provided by the 1945 adminisment, the Attlee one had a large House of Commons majority, and faced a cowed and ineffective opposition. Like New Labour, it was even more popular one year in than it had been at the time of its election.

in the government's demise the

following summer.

Labour in 1945 was certainly radical. Gordon Brown's initial act as Chancellor was, symbolically, to cut the Bank of England loose: in 1945. Chancellor Hugh Dalton's first move, equally symbolical, was to take the Bank into public ownership. That was only the beginning. Soon afterwards, coal, civil aviation, electricity and the railways were ticked off Herbert Morrison's nationalisation shopping list, while steps began to set up

a health service and welfare

Dalton called 1946 "annus mirabilis", a phrase Blairites might apply to 1998. Unfortunately, a miraculous first 12 or 18 months was followed by "annus horrendus" in 1947 involving a fuel shortage and financial crisis that curtailed the Labour programme, came close to toppling the prime minister, and marked a turning-of-thetide for a government that had hitherto seemed set for ten years in office.

The Attlee administration was not the last Labour one to fall from grace, after an initial success. Much the same happened to the government of

John Prescott-figure of the day. The new premier was idolised by the press, and his popularity in the country was so great, compared with that of his Conservative opposite number, that the Tories adopted a new

method of selecting a leader.

Twelve months after taking

office, the headlines buzzed with announcements of pledges fulfilled. During the autumn and winter months of 1965-6, Labour led in the polls, and in the March 1965 general elec-

The truth is that Labour honeymoons have always ended in tears

Again, there are some parallels Wilson was a young and energetic politician who took over the party leadership when a predecessor died unexpectedly. Like Blair, Wilson led a largely untried team in cabinet.

Seldom has British parliamentary politics witnessed such definess as shown by Wilson in his first year: as he turned a tiny majority to his own advantage, making party unity the watchword. Internationally, Wilson was congratulated for his statesmanlike handling of the problem of Southern Rhodesia, which was threatening UDI: domestically, there was excitement over the unveiling, in September 1965, of the National Plan by George Brown, the

tion, Wilson increased his parliamentary majority, while Labour continued to present itself as a band of busy, able and efficient ministers who believed in the modernising message Harold Wilson in the 1960s. they brought to the nation.

............. If any of that sounds familfortable one for the present cabinet, for it all turned to dust

a few weeks later. In July 1966, a sterling crisis and its deflationary outcome effectively demolished the government's economic strategy. Labour in 1945-7 and 1964-6 had been able to walk tall: by contrast, the fragile follow-up Labour governments of Wilson in 1974-6 and Jim Callaghan in 1976-9 were limited by threadbare or

non-existent majorities and stunted by recurrent crises.

However, governments do not always slide remorselessly downward, and there is also one other fairly recent - non-Labour - comparison, to hear this out. One year after winning in 1979, Margaret Thatcher trailed in the polls, as manufacturing industry collapsed and unemployment rose. By the end of 1981, Gallup gave the Conservatives a mere 23 per cent of the vote, their worst showing ever. Then came the Falklands conflict, the premier's metamorphosis into the Iron Lady, and the Tories' legendary win in the 1993 election.

Is it better for a government to do well or badly in its first year? Every premier would opt for doing well, and Blair could scarcely have done better. Yet every premier also knows that getting through year one is not the end of the story.

History cannot tell us what the future holds for the present prime minister: whether a crippling collapse, or an enhancing triumph. However, what the judgement on the present government is premature, and that the real test - a make-or-break financial crisis, a foreign war or whatever - that will decide Blair's place in history, is yet to

Ben Pimlott is author of biographies of Hugh Dalton, Harold Wilson and the Queen, and is Warden-elect of Goldsmiths College, London.

# Blair's commitment to both old and new supporters



DONALD MACINTYRE WATCHING THE PRIME MINISTER

THIS time last year, West End theatregoers were flocking to see Tom and Clem, a serendipitously timed play set in the immediate aftermath of the 1945 election. At its most resonant moment, Attlee stops worrying about how to make people realise his victory won't bring Jerusalem overnight" long enough to express surprise that the distinctly ruling class young official looking after him at Possdam had voted Labour. "Quite a lot of us did." she says in crisp, Southern Received English tones, "that's why you

The exchange expresses why Blair reminds those who marvel, or alternatively fret, at his appeal to so called middle England, that all successful gov-

ernments, including Margaret Thatcher's, have been built on popular cross-class coalitions of the same sort. The difference, it no longer needs saying now that Blair has said it so often, is that the Labour ones all lasted for only one term. This doesn't look like a government which will last for only one term. You can't find a politician in any party who works on any assumption other than that Blair will win the next election. Except one. Blair makes no assumptions. He is telling colleagues that Labour will take some punishment in the local elections next Thursday. He is unmesmerised by the polls, realising that what goes up must come down. He knows only that maintenance of that coalition is the necessary condition of his government's passage into terms two and perhaps three or four. Blow it, and you blow your best chances to change history.

This accounts for Blair's impatience with many of the complaints made about his administration so far. He has been known to remark that some people in his party feel that a Labour government is only fulfilling its sacred mission if it is in crisis, heading for defeat. He doesn't believe that a government introducing a minimum wage, union recognition rights, an objectively redistributive budget, a New Deal for the unemployed funded by a Northern Ireland, in circum-

ly trashed its core constituency. Or that one that has surgically removed the middle class perk of free university tuition is too timid to confront vested interests. Or that one which which has devolved more power, monetary and political, than anyone expected, is too authoritarian. But he believes that those who think he should have moved even faster fundamentally misunderstand that in the long term fiscal prudence and popularity deliver as imprudence and unpopularity emblems branded on past Labour governments - never can. Yes, social exclusion unit not withstanding, sink estates are still sink estates; but how long did it take Margaret Thatcher to deliver her big achievements - union reform. privatisation, the big bang? By the end of the first term, let

raid on the utilities, has exact-

hardly started. On Europe, I suspect, Blair does reluctantly accept that his unique opportunity to lead in the formation of a flexible, deregulated, open Europe in the post-Mitterand, and soonto-be, perhaps, post-Kohl era will for the foreseeable future be circumscribed by Britain's self-exclusion from the euro to be finally born in Brussels this weekend. As it happens Blair's with interest rates at their curskills, triumphantly displayed in

alone the first year, she had

stances in which he genuinely thought more than once a settlement was lost, are still in demand, in The Hague, Paris and Bonn, to help settle the wrangle over who should run the European bank. But this is in the end Franco-German business and that cannot fail to frustrate a prime minister who now has a much clearer vision of Britain's role in the world than when he came to office a year ago: not superpower but

But here again the same laws apply. Blair is unfazed by

He will continue to reach beyond party to the whole country

allegations of timidity towards EMU. First there is the little question of whether it does indeed succeed. Second, he is almost haunted by his observations of how Britain's entry into the ERM, timed to suit political rather than economic pressures, courted disaster. Until there is a credible economic case - and at present rent level and with Britain having no need of its fiscal

disciplines there is none - then the political opposition can't reliably be vanquished in a referendum. According to his closest allies, it is that rather than fear of Rupert Murdoch which restrains him. What is true is that is that Blair won't risk his sustaining popular coalition by entry before the economics are right. All that said, it has been an

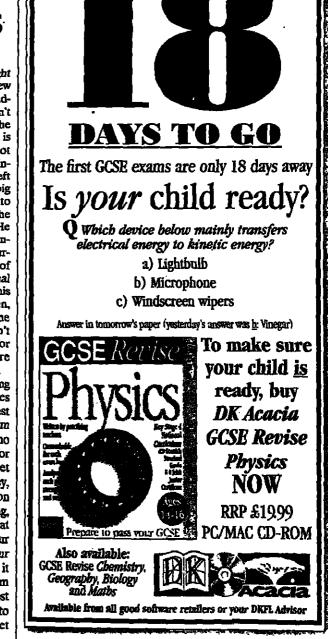
extraordinary, Britain-chang-

ing year - the highly avoidable messes over EMU, Bernie Ecclestone's funding of the party, and lone parent benefit cuts not-withstanding. There will be a reshuffle - perhaps at Whitsun - of a cabinet in which Brown, Prescott, Straw, Blunkett, Mowlam, Cook (at least when at his desk or in EU negotiations) and Frank Dobson have starred. There will be a change in the Cabinet Office structure, if not quite, as one high official recently put it, to give Blair a more "Napoleonic" grip on government, at least to give Number Ten some of the capacity to co-ordinate departmental activity every senior Downing Street adviser in living memory has complained it woefully lacks. But above all Blair will continue to govern as he has done, reaching beyond

party to the country as a whole. Which means, I think, more surprises like the lateral thinking that last week put Chris Patten in charge of the RUC how it was won.

review. Just when you thought you had caught up with the new politics Blair pushes the boundaries out a little further. (It can't be repeated too often that the question of electoral reform is for him one of means and not ends: the best way of sustaining the centre and centre left coalition of interests - the big tent - which brought Blair to power and which can keep the Tories out for a generation.) He talks with hitherto unfashionable ease about national purpose. His admiration of Thatcher's drive as a national leader isn't feigned. Nor is his admiration for businessmen, however queasy it makes some in the Labour Party. This isn't some aberration of style: for Blair, enterprise is where growth and jobs come from. This doesn't mean forgetting

about the poor. What it does mean is that Labour's newest supporters have as much claim not to be betrayed as those who have never voted other than for the Labour Party. Its a safe bet that Blair told Roy Hattersley, his most articulate critic on Labour's old Croslandite wing, when he met him last week that the alternative to a New Labour government isn't old Labour but Conservative. And that it does no service to the long term interests of those who most need a Labour government to will the victory but then forget



# Internal e-mail reveals that Seagram fired opening salvo in the bidding war

# EMI goes under the hammer

By Nigel Cope Associate City Editor

580p a share, valuing EMI at £4.8bn.

to 706.7p on the news as analysts looked forward to a possible auction for the last independent major music group. Other potential bidders could include American groups Disney, Viacom and Dreamworks, Bertelsmann of German, Sony of Japan and Kirk Kerkorian, the American buyout specialist who once made an aborted offer for Chrysler the American car giant. Mr Kerkorian has expressed an interest in EMI but it is understood that he has not yet made an offer.

EMI did not disclose the identity of the suitor in its statement to the stock exchange only saying that it had received an offer that could lead to a bid. However internal e-mails sent to EMI staff included more detail. One said: "As you may now be aware, EMI has received an approach about a possible offer for the company from Seagram - owner of Universal. It is in no way clear that the purchase will go through. As we receive more information we will keep you informed."

A memo sent later said simply: "Seagram 580p bid. Advise to hold on as more suitors are coming to the ball."

On the possibility of a bid battle one analyst said: "EMI has rarity value and it is a trophy asset. People go all starry-eyed when it comes to music and film compa-

Anthony de Larrinagha, media analyst at Panmure Gordon added: "The fit is strong in emerging markets and Europe. Seagram is strong in America where EMI is weak."

SEAGRAM may be eyeing up an acquisition of EMI but the possibility of the Canadian giant teaming up with another A BIDDING WAR for EMI was in British group appears to be receding writes prospect yesterday after the British mu- Andrew Yates. Hopes of a spirits merger sic group received an offer from Seagram, between Allied Domecq and Seagram are the Canadian drinks and entertainment fading according to industry sources. The group, that could lead to a bid. Seagram, two sides have been talking about a deal which controls the Universal/MCA film for several months but have failed to thrash and music empire, has tabled an offer of out an agreement. Allied Domecq admitted that it had so far been unable to bro-EMI shares soared nearly 20 per cent ker a merger with any rival drinks firms...

> most that could derive the best synergies from a deal with EMI. In addition to its drinks division which controls brands like Chivas Regal and Glenlivet, Seagram also owns Universal, the former MCA business whose roster of acts includes Counting Crows and Mary J Blige. It would be able to wring out cost benefits from combining its distribution arms whilst improving its geographic spread.

> Some analysts said a bid battle could force the take-out price as high as 750p. However others said some US rivals might not cherish the prospect of a battle with Seagram. It is understood that Ed Eisner, chief executive office of the Walt Disney Corporation, ruled out a bid for EMI at a briefing in Florida only a few

> The other major music groups such as Sony and Bertlesmann might face competition problems if they were to bid. Viacom, the MTV and Paramount media empire has heavy debts and is looking to make disposals including the Simon & Schuster book publishing division and Blockbuster Video.

> There has been speculation about a possible bid for EMI since Sir Colin Southgate, the group's chairman flew to the United States last week. Some music the flight in the private jet of Ed Bronfman, Seagram's chief executive officer.



What they want: Radiohead, one of the big names that have made EMI an attractive target for overseas predators

Segram's UK operations. He gave a pre- It means the deal would be less likely to and has produced a host of famous artists The Ark in Hammersmith on Tuesday but have affected other deals (such as the failed is expected to return to Canada by the Glaxo-SmithKline merger).

the under-performance of the company which de-merged from the Thorn rentals business in August 1996. It has been hit by the slowdown in global CD sales and the impact of the Asian crisis and full year profits next month are expected to be down from £380m to £312m. One senior fund manager at one of

would certainly be best with Seagram. EMI industry sources even said he had made EMI's largest institutional shareholders field, known as "Lucky Jim" because of said: "EMI is a deal waiting to happen. I think the ground has been well prepared £12m. Sir Colin is back in London this week for this with the various management

sentation to staff at its London office at founder on the personality clashes which EMI's management has been in a

EMI's investors have been bruised by state of turmoil since plans for an orderly handover of control from Sir Colin Southgate collapsed into disarray. Sir Colin had been keen to spend less time at EMI following his appointment as chairman of the Royal Opera House. But the promotion of Jim Fifield, the head of EMI Music to the chief executive position was blocked by the non-executives. Mr Fihis high pay then left with a pay-off of terrier Nipper listening to the horn of a

Analysts see Seagram as the bidder as is Mr Bronfman who has been visiting changes over the last couple of months. a century to the birth of recorded music

stretching from Dame Nellie Melba to the Spice Girls. Its current roster includes Garth Brooks and Tina Turner plus classical artists Roberto Alagna and Vanessa-Mae. EMI also continues to cash in on the recordings of the Beatles who they first rejected but then signed in 1962.

EMI has its origins in The Gramophone Company, set up in London in 1897 by William Barry Owen, as associate of Emile Berliner, the inventor of the gramophone. Two years later the company bought Francis Barraud's now famous painting of black and white fox gramophone. The "His Master's Voice" EMI Group traces its roots back over image and title became the company's

Kirk Kerkorian

# Young trustees fined

THE ROYAL Bank of Scotland and General Accident have been ordered to pay a total of £800,000 in fines and costs following investigations by Imro, the City regulator, into the conduct of Peter Young, the former Morgan Grenfell fund manager.

Royal Bank (RBS), trustee of Morgan Grenfell's Europa fund since January 1996 and its European growth fund since May 1996, was fined £290,000 and ordered to pay Imro's costs of £143,400.

General Accident (GA), trustee of the two funds prior to the appointment of RBS. was fined £120,000 and ordered to pay costs of £247,400.

Imro said GA's fine was the lighter of the two because it "proactively monitored the funds, but did not follow up explanations given by Morgan Grenfell on a timely basis". RBS was not proactive in its monitoring of the funds, Imro said.

Richard Whitaker, GA company secretary, said: "We are disappointed that General Accident has been judged as failing in four instances in its duty as trustee. As can be seen by the length of time it has taken Imro to deal with this, the matters are highly complex. In this context, General Accident believes that, overall, it discharged its trustee duties both diligently and competently."

RBS, whose fine related to two charges, pointed out it had been trustee for only a short time before irregularities came to light. It added that, upon discovery of the irregularities, it took "immediate action".

Peter Young was suspended from Morgan Grenfell Asset Management (MGAM) in 1996 after the discovery of alleged "serious irregularities" in three of his funds. Five MGAM executives were subsequently dismissed, and, in April last year, Imro fined MGAM £2m and ordered it to pay another £1m in costs. Deutsche has spent more than £200m compensating investors.

Four of the five former MGAM executives - Graham Kane, Michael Wheatley, Glynn Owen and Paul Ebling - were directly above Mr Young in the command chain. The two executives nominally next up - Charles Benson and Mike Bullock - were exonerated and remain with the company. Keith Percy, then chief executive of MGAM, was the fifth director to be dismissed.

A number of the five are understood to be close to reaching, or to have already reached, settlements with Imro.

The five former executives - with the possible exception of Keith Percy because he has substantial personal wealth- are though unlikely to contest Imro's findings at tribunal due to fears they could each be landed with legal bills exceeding £500,000.

Deutsche Bank, MGAM's parent has, to date, footed the legal bill for its former employees. Its support is thought unlikely to continue were they to go to a tribunal.

#### Who might bid for EMI and why

#### Seagram



Edgar Broafmag Jr. CEO Front runner and one of the world's top drinks and entertainment companies. Owns 80 per cent of Universal, whose music acts include Counting Crows. It has virtually no exposure in Europe which is EMI's main market.

CEO.

The US giant is the world's second largest media group Paramount and MTV but is seiling the Simon & Schuster publishing business so might be distracted. Was linked with rumours of a takeover of the then Thom-EMI more than two years ago. Still has debts of about £6bn. It has been linked with plans to bid for Pearson. The company is headed by the veteran businessman Sumner Redstone, its chairman and



Huge in films and television but lacks a major presence in music. Some of EMI's Chumbawumba might clash with Disney's family image. But might bid if EMI looked set



has annual sales of more than £3.3bn according to 1995 Columbia, Epic and Sony Music. Formed in 1946 out of the ruins of the Second World War, It now has interests in video, audio and television equipment as well as in films.



Steven Spielberg A long shot, Film and media company set up by Steven Spielberg, David Geffen, the music mogul, and Jeffrey Katzenberg, the former Disney executive. with \$1 bn of investment. It is bankroiled with equity and debt of \$2.7bn.

competition problems, In the midst of buying Random House for \$1bn and may therefore be pre-occupied with that deal. Third largest global media conglomerate after Disney and Time Warner. Founded in 1835 when Carl Bertelsmann started publishing Lutheran bibles, it has recently formed the BooksOnline venture to compete for the internet sales market. Has a

strong presence in books, film

and music.

German media giant which is



US corporate raider. Aiready has a controlling Interest in MGM/United Artists, the film company and a string of casino and leisure interests. As a single bidder would struggle to generate

# Safeway to sell the more fulfilling yoghurt

#### By Andrew Yates

SCOTIA, the drugs company behind Olibra, the new ingredient used in yoghurts which makes you feel fuller for longer, revealed yesterday it had teamed up with St Ivel to create a range of new desserts. Unigate, which owns St Ivel, will market the new products in the UK, Ireland, France and Italy.

Olibra was developed from a natural fat extract that triggers the release of chemicals that make the brain think the stomach is full. Scotia launched Olibra in January when it went on sale in Sweden as the key ingredient of Maval yoghurt, in

partnership with the Swedish food group Skanemejerier. Since its launch, Maval has won 2 per cent of the Swedish fruit yoghurt market and Scotia now plans to introduce Olibra to consumers around the

Olibra is being introduced in the UK under the brand name Skane Dairy Maval in an initial deal between Safeway and Skanemejerier. It is likely to be extended to other supermarkets by the end of the year.

Scotia also announced that it is trimming its product portfolio from 20 drugs to five. It is concentrating on cancer treatments which could be an alter-

# US miracle gets even better |Clean-up will add

# By Diane Coyle

NEWS of the strongest growth for a year combined with the lowest inflation since Eisenhower was president showed that the astonishing performance of the American economy continued into the first quarter. The Asian crisis helped sustain the economic nirvana by trimming growth to a pace that would not force the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates, analysts said.

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

The markets celebrated. The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond jumped nearly one and a half points, and the Dow Jones index had gained 141 points to reach 9,092.77 by midday.

The gains helped the FTSE-100 closed higher in London. It was up 95 points at 5,928.3.

The first-quarter increase in GDP amounted to 4.2 per cent at an annual rate, the fastest growth since the same quarter last year. Consumer cent. spending leapt by 5.7 per cent, more than double the previous quarter's rise. Investment spending by

businesses surged at a rate of nearly 18 per cent after a flat fourth quarter. Much of it was spending on computers, which climbed by 19 per cent to an annual rate of \$296.4bn. "Domestic demand went ballistic, " said Ian Shepherdson,

chief economist at HSBC Se-

curities in New York.

The economy would have rose by 0.7 per cent, down from grown even faster were it not for the biggest ever drop in the contribution of exports less imports to growth. Events in Asia reduced exports by 3.4 per cent,

Yet at the same time inflation could not have behaved better. The GDP deflator, the widest measure of inflation. slowed down, rising just 0.9 per cent during the quarter. The deflator for domestic demand fell by 0.1 per cent, the first quarterly decline since 1959.

Separate figures for employment costs also rose less than expected, indicating that the tight jobs market has not caused a pick-up in pay rises. It curities.

its 1 per cent gain in the fourth quarter of 1997. Much of the rise that did oc-

cur was down to increased health costs, according to a while imports surged 11.6 per Bureau of Labour Statistics official. Health insurance costs were up 2.2 per cent in the 12 months to March, but the rise was offset by a drop in the cost of unemployment insurance. Wall Street economists were

swift to take the figures as evidence that the US economy has achieved a new pattern of high growth and low inflation. "It's an outmoded view that growth is dangerous because it accelerates inflation," said Philip Braverman of DKB Se-

# £65 to water bills By Michael Harrison

HOUSEHOLD water bills could rise by as much as £65 a year to pay for an £11bn programme of environmental improvements, the water regulator Ian Byatt said yesterday. This would be the equivalent

of charges rising by 30 per cent more than the general inflation rate between 2000 and 2005, he added. The estimates are based on figures supplied by the water companies and assumes no offsetting efficiency savings. Mr Byatt said he disputed

calculations made by the industry and estimated that the improvements could be

**TOURIST RATES** 

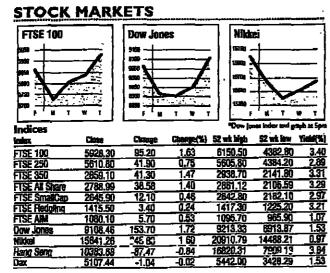
achieved for an additional £18 a year on bills.

Shares in water companies fell on fears that the regulator would force the industry to bear more of the costs of meeting various European directives on environmental improvements. The programme includes measures to cut lead and pesticides in water and improvements in river water and

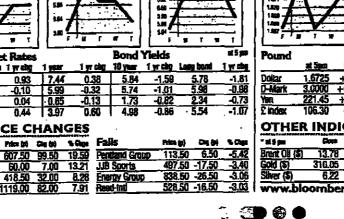
sewage disposal. Mr Byatt has written to John Prescott, the Secretary of State for Transport, Environment and the Regions, seeking guidance on what level of improvements to the water system the Government wants.

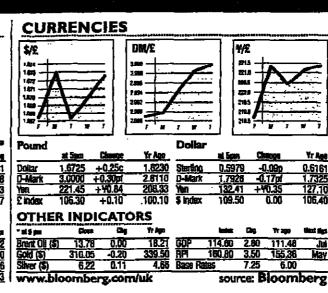
0.6291

#### Yesterday in the markets



# **INTEREST RATES** ÜK 10 year gilt US long bond





#### <u> Malta (Gra)</u> Austria (schillings 20,37 Mexican (nuevo peso) Belgium (francs) 59.92 Canada (\$) 2.3367 Cyprus (pounds 0.8471 Denmark (krone) 11.14 Finland (markka) 8.8571 France (trancs) 9.7300 Germany (marks) 29120 Greeca (drachma) <u>508.22</u> <u>Hong Kong (S)</u> 12.54 ireland (punts) 1.7481 60.97 israel (statkels) <u>5.7120</u> 2881 Japan (yen) <u>215.80</u>



Source: Thomas Cook

لَكُذَا مِنْ أَلَاصِلُ



OUTLOOK ON THE UNSEEMLY AUCTION OF EMI, THE BATTLE FOR MORE GROUP, AND THE LATEST EPISODE IN THE PETER YOUNG

SCANDAL

# Lost opportunity for a British multi-media giant

TWO months ago, this column wrote that for cash, may keep the Germans on the music, publishing and film. That chance officers be lobbying for a reference of the unless Sir Colin Southgate, chairman of EMI, pulled his socks up, he and his company were toast. It has taken longer than might have been expected, but finally the first bid has rolled in. Thanks to EMI's internal e-mail system, we even know who it is and what the price might be. The company apparently informed UK employees yesterday that it was Ed Bronfman's Seagram and that he was bidding 580p a share. Since the Stock Exchange was told only that an approach had been received from an unnamed party, this seems to be one of those rare instances of the staff knowing what's

going on before the outside world. But then this is the music business and they do like to play jokes, don't they. Hoax or not, the e-mail is an entirely believable one. Mr Bronfman is everyone's odds-on favourite, but his must surely be only the opening shot, bound to be followed in swift order by others. EMI is the only big international music company which it is remotely possible to bid for. Of the other major players. Sony and Time Warner are too big and diversified, Bertelsmann is privately owned, and Polygram is controlled by Phillips. This gives EMI a rarity value which ought to ensure a fierce and hotly contested auction.

Bertelsmann has sought Sir Colin Southgate's hand once before, but in the end the merger proposed was so teutonic in structure that the EMI board had little difficulty in dismissing the approach before putting it to shareholders. In any case, competition issues, and the fact that Berteismann has just bought Random House sidelines this time round. Competition difficulties will be a big stumbling block for the rest of the big five too, but don't rule

Meanwhile there are a host of powerful media players trying, in this multi-media world, to gain a foothold in the music business. Despite its best endeavours, Disney has thus far failed to grow a serious presence in the industry. The strategy here is to mirror Sony and Time Warner, which combine film and music product and distribution. Then there are the straight media distributors, such as Viacoun. The list of possible suitors is almost endless, as well as almost wholly foreign.

How did it come to this - that Britain's leading music company should be auctioned off in this unseemly fashion in the showrooms of New York? The blame, if that is the right word, lies mainly with Sir Colin. In his pursuit of shareholder value, Sir Colin sold or demerged all around him until he was left with a pure music company which would obviously be attractive to bidders. No one can fault him for that. The problem is that since demerging from Thorn, EMI has been allowed to drift. As a symptom of that drift, there have also been some high profile management nuctions, culminating in Sir Colin's failure to get his preferred successor, "Lucky" Jim Fifield, ratified by the board. To shareholders, the company has looked all at sea.

What's about to happen to EMI is a shame. In this company there was a chance to build a major British based multi-media company encompassing seems to have been squandered.

#### At war over street furniture

FROM this side of the fence, it looks like the Napoleonic wars, Agincourt, Poitiers and Crecy all over again. The story so far. More Group, Britain's leading poster advertising company, last month agreed a £441m takeover bid from Clear Channel of the US. Embarrassingly, this bid was then topped by JC Decaux, a family-owned French company which just happens to be one of More Group's more aggressive competitors, particularly in the fast growing market of ad-

vertising on street furniture. As a consequence, Roger Parry, chief executive of More Group, had to withdraw his recommendation of the Clear Channel bid and he is now technically neutral, awaiting a decision from the competition authorities on the Decaux bid and/or whether the Americans decide to better it. That's the official position, anyway. However, Jean-Francois Decaux, the younger of the father and son team that runs Decaux, does not believe it to be the true one. He suspects that Mr Parry is against him and he cannot understand why, given that as things stand, his is the better offer and therefore the one More Group shareholders are bound to prefer. Could it be ancient national rivalries?

Whatever the case, Decaux's bankers, Lazard Brothers, seem to have been putting a number of concerns to the Takeover Panel. The question is, should Mr Parry or his French bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, given that their shareholders could lose out if this happens? The French bid is worth 80p a share more.

Mr Parry is obviously aware that he has to maintain a strictly neutral stance in these things. There has been lobbying from Clear Channel, but you would expect that. More Group and its officers, on the other hand, are under strict instructions to do nothing. Some interesting issues are raised by all this, none the less. Can companies really be expected to stand idly by and feign complete neutrality if they think a bid is anticompetitive and against the public interest?

Companies nearly always enjoin the competition authorities into the defence when faced by a hostile bid. The key point here, though, is that strictly speaking a defence can only be mounted on the basis that the board thinks the offer undervalues their company. It is then fair game to use any legal tactic available to see off the bidder. Plainly that is not the case in this bid since the board has already recommended a lower offer. However, the difference is a subtle one and even the most avid supporter of shareholder value would understand the difficulty most managements would have in being taken

over by their head-to-head competitor. If Mr Decaux does succeed, the last laugh could be on him. Research shows that despite the obvious advantages of monopoly and scale that occur when two fiercely competing companies merge, the end result in terms of shareholder value is nearly always disastrous. Why? Because fierce competitors are rarely compatible, culturally or in

terms of their people, and the merged company is likely to become involved in years of debilitating infighting. We'll see.

#### Trustees pay the price

UNTIL the balloon went up, courtesy of Peter Young, the job of trustee to a unit trust must have seemed one of the easier ways of making money known to man, or at least to the City. Fund managers simply don't bend the rules by playing fast and loose with investors' money do they? The Morgan Grenfell Asset Management scandal rudely interrupted those assumptions and caused a scramble among trustees to ensure their compliance checks were up to scratch.

Peter Young was dismissed almost immediately although no other disciplinary action has yet been taken. Five other Morgan Grenfell executives have paid with their jobs too. The firm itself has paid both a hefty fine and compensation. Now, at last, 18 months after the scandal came to light, the regulatory authorities in the shape of Imro, have caught up with the trustees, first General Accident and then Royal Bank of Scotland.

It was their job to ensure Mr Young was investing clients' money within the rules, particularly those relating to what proportion of funds could be put into highly speculative, unlisted securities. They have now agreed to pay fines and costs totalling £800,000 - paltry set against the £220m that disappeared, but nevertheless proportionate to their role in the catalogue of failures that allowed the affair to happen.

# Sale spells end for Hambros

By Lea Paterson

THE DEATH knell finally sounded for one of the City's oldest institutions yesterday when Hambros sold most of its remaining assets to Investee of South Africa for £428m.

The deal marks the end of the break-up process initiated last year following a series of difficulties at the bank.

Investec's offer, described as "full and fair" by analysts, does not include the bank's stakes in Hambro Countrywide, the estate agency, or Hambro Insurance Services (HIS). Both Countrywide and HIS

The rise and fall of Hambros

1839 Founded by Cart Joachim Hambro, a Danish merchant 1921 Adopts the name Hambros Bank following the merger with the British Bank of Northern Commerce

Announces 44% drop in pre tax profit, launches strategic review

Apologises to CWS after backing Andrew Regan's break-up bld

Appoints Schroders to advise on improving shareholder value

Banking activities sold to Societa Generale of France for £300m

Sep 1995: Vallure fund Regent Pacific takes 3% state, attacks company's "diabolical" strare price, threatiers group with break-up Marr 1997: Merges fund management arm with Guinness Mahon's, despite continued criticism from Regent Pacific

**1960s** Period of innovation and expansion — leader in City's move into Eurodollars 1979 Creation of holding company Hambros Ltd, forerunner of Hambros plc 1998: Period of diversification, acquires Hambro Countrywide

are to be demerged from the

Sir Chips Keswick, Hambros' chairman, said: "I believe that these proposed offers are attractive for the shareholders of Hambros and are the best available option for realising value. They will also provide a definitive solution to the future of Hambros."

The deal puts a break-up value on the company of 307p a share, at the top end of City estimates. Hambros' shares leapt on the news of Investec's offer and ended the day up 12.5p at 292.5p.

The Hambros' assets sold to Investec include a cash surplus

of £231m realised from the sale of the group's core banking business to Société Générale of France, a Canadian fund manager, and Hambros' diverse direct investment portfolio,

comprising some 50 holdings.

The package also includes

Hambros' 44 per cent stake in Guinness Flight Hambro Asset (Guinness Management Flight). This will bring Investec's stake in Guinness Flight to 88 per cent following its acquisition of Guinness Mahon-another old British banking name - earlier this year. At the time of the Guinness Mahon sale, Guinness Flight management were thought to be unhappy with the new ownership arrangements and were said to be pushing for a management buy-out. An Investec spokesperson said vesterday that talks were ongoing between Investee and Guinness

Flight management. HIS, in which Hambros holds a 52 per cent stake, has appointed financial advisers DLJ Phoenix Securities to "assist in reviewing all options". This review may lead to an offer for the company.



Air attack: Saab's Gripen fighter, which BAe already markets under a joint venture

THE consolidation of Europe's defence and aerospace industries took a further step forward yesterday after British Aerospace agreed to pay £269m for a 35 per cent stake in Sweden's Saab, maker of the Gripen combat aircraft.

BAe will also nominate three members of the nine-strong Saab board and jointly select its chairman and managing director along with Investor, the the Swedish group which owns the

business. The Saab investment is the second major European deal by BAe, which last year acquired Siemens Defence for just over £300m. The Saab deal does not include the car mar-

que, which is separately owned. BAe already has extensive ties with Saab across a range of activities including fighter aircraft and aerostructures.

BAe has a joint venture agreement to market the Gripen in wider export markets but yesterday's deal will give it a direct stake in the programme

**Biotech investors** 

to supply 204 Gripen aircraft to the Swedish air force, one of the largest in Europe. Saab has also tendered successfully recently for aerostructures work on the Airbus, in which BAe has a 20 per cent stake, and will be well placed to undertake further sub-contract work as the Airbus programme expands.

The two have an extensive history of collaboration on guided weapons programmes including the RB70, a medium range missile developed from the UK Sky Flash missile.

### Irish pubs have peaked, says Allied Domecq

ALLIED DOMECQ, the pub and spirits giant, yesterday said the Irish pub market had peaked and was in decline. Growth at its Firkin pub chains is also showing signs of slowing down amid intense competition among the major operators who are investing huge sums in the themed pub market. Allied has decided not to open any more of its Scruffy Murphy's Irish pub brand and is also reining back the expansion of the 178-strong Firkin chain. Instead the group is concentrating on growing the number of outlets designed to appeal to the family. Overall Allied's managed pub profits rose 6 per cent, a figure which disappointed industry analysts.

Investment column, page 26

## Regan trust disappears

ENTREPRENEUR Andrew Regan's investment trust Lanica Trust effectively wrote its own obituary yesterday when it said it would amalgamate with coffee shop group City Gourmets. Lanica, whose shares were suspended last year, said City Gourmets would take over all its assets, debts, liabilities and obligations and the Lanica name would disappear, with shareholders receiving 1.093 City Gourmet shares in place of every Lanica share. Mr Regan, who last year made an unsuccessful and ultimately discredited attempt to take over the Co-operative Wholesale Society, will buy some of the group's assets for £204,750 in cash as part of the deal.

## Peugot drives profits up

THE COVENTRY-BASED car maker Peugeot reported its best profits for seven years on the back of record sales. Profits last year reached £52.5m, the highest since 1990 and £22m up on 1996, as sales of Peugeot cars reached 167.472. The increase will trigger a windfall profit related payout for the workforce at Ryton. Production last year was just below its record level at 85,500 and this year sees the introduction of a new model at Coventry backed by a £100m investment.

#### **US** airlines link up

UNITED AIRLINES and Delta Airlines announced a global link up and code-sharing deal - the third such alliance between leading US carriers this year. Delta and United said the alliance would generate savings of \$600m a year and would not involve any route closures. However, the link-up, coming hard on the heels of American-USAirways and Northwest-Continental, increases the risk that US anti-trust authorities may decide to veto all three alliances.

#### Warning on euro

FAILURE to join the euro could result in Britain losing investment projects, the Chemical Industries Association warned. Chris Andrews, chairman of its business and trade board, urged the Government to decide on membership before the election. A CIA survey showed the UK chemical industry investment will reach £2.76bn this year and £2.7bn next - a 3 per cent fall on 1997 levels in real terms. Output this year is forecast to drop by 1 per cent due in part to the strength of sterling.

#### Consumers cool

CONSUMER confidence is cool as the series of interest rate rises begins to bite and post-election euphoria finally wears off, according to the latest quarterly bulletin from Business Strategies. Jacqui Timothy, managing economist, said rates should stay at their present level and forecast a soft landing for the economy this year with the strong service sector preventing manufacturing industry from dragging Britain into recession.

# Apr 1998 Invested buys Hambros rump for £428m, HIS/Countrywide to be demarg **Texas bags Energy Group**

By Michael Harrison

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nner

THE year long-battle for control of Energy Group, owner of Eastern Electricity, finally came to an end yesterday after PacifiCorp dropped out of the bidding, leaving Texas Utilities to clinch the takeover with a £4.45bn recommended offer.

The outcome prompted immediate speculation that the defeated bidder might turn its sights on another UK electricity company and shares in both. PowerGen and National Power rose sharply.

PacifiCorp, which began the takeover tussle with a £3.9bn bid last June, withdrew after the

had to submit sealed bids to decide the outcome of the contest.

There was confusion and irritation in the City as to why PacifiCorp had not pulled out earlier. The winning bid from Texas is worth 840p a share compared with the 820p offered by PacifiCorp, which was advised by Goldman

Last night, PacifiCorp said it had decided not to increase its offer because it did not see "acceptable financial returns to PacifiCorp shareholders at values in excess of 820p."

One analyst, expressing a widely held view, said: "If that

Takeover Panel intervened by was the case why did they not Peabody as a consolation prize ruling that the two US utilities . pull out 10 days ago when Texas was cleared by the competition authorities to bid at 840p a share?"

Erle Nye, chairman of Texas Utilities, said he was pleased that the higher offer had prevailed. The Energy Group, led by chairman Derek Bonham, urged shareholders to accept the Texas offer as soon as possible. The offer closes on 19

Energy Group, which also owns the US coal producer Peabody, which Texas has agreed to sell to Lehman Merchant Banking Partners for \$2.3bn. There are rumours that PacifiCorp may seek to acquire

The conclusion to the longrunning bid contest will make Eastern the eighth British regional electricity company to be taken over by an American utility. John Devaney, the executive chairman of Eastern, will be offered a senior position by

the new owners but he is not expected to stay with the Energy Sources in the Texas camp suggested that PacifiCorp may never have intended to raise its offer but by holding off making an announcement was simply trying to "spoof" Texas into bidding against itself. A PacifiCorp spokesman denied

#### By Nigel Cope Associate City Editor

LEADING institutional shareholders in British Biotech stepped up the pressure on the beleaguered drug development company yesterday, urging the board to issue a full statement in the next few days or risk an

emergency general meeting. Major investors such as Perpetual are becoming increasingly frustrated at the delaying tactics of the board, which has indicated that it could be several weeks before it issues a detailed circular countering allegations made by Dr Andrew Millar, its former

demand action now head of clinical trials who was sacked last week.

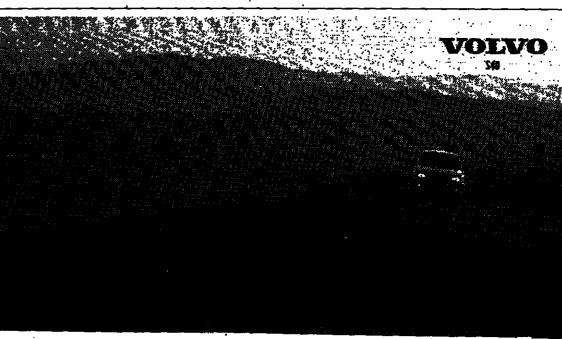
Bob Yerbury of Perpetual, said: "We continue to have concerns and they need to be addressed as a matter of urgency."

Another leading shareholder said: "We cannot be talking about weeks before this circular. It must be days. Shareholders and advisers need to satisfy themselves as to whether there is any validity to these claims. I think there probably is and if so then there would need to be some changes to the front team."

British Biotech said: "We are preparing a comprehensive circular to prospectus standards. That would normally take in excess of four weeks."

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# THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY ANDREW YATES

#### Allied needs some action

VER since Grand Metropolitan and Guinness announced a year ago that they were joining forces to create Diageo, the most powerful drinks group the industry had ever seen, Allied Domecq has come under growing pressure to do a deal of its own.

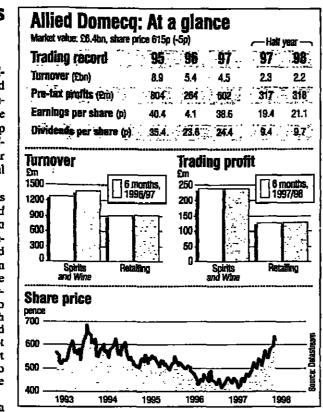
The logic of a merger has not been lost on the Allied board. The group is sitting in an uncomfortable position of being number two in a mature and static spirits market. Sensibly, in an industry where brands are becoming increasingly important, it has poured money into supporting its top sellers such as Ballantine's whisky and Beefeater gin. But that will not be enough to generate the sort of leap in profits that Diageo can enjoy as it launches a huge cost cutting campaign.

But masterminding a merger is much easier said than done. For a start the other to 615p yesterday, on a big players in the drinks industry tend to be run by families, who will take more than a little persuading to give up control of their fieldoms. Merger talks are taking much longer than Allied had anticipated. And word is chances of a full spirits merger with Sea- from Arcadia gram, which was always the most likely partner for Allied. THINGS have got so bad in are receding fast.

to do nothing. Its share price, which has enjoyed a remarkable resurgence since the if all remains quiet on the cor-

Profits for the six months to True the strength of sterling and the Asia crisis dampened earnings. But the figure reveal a disappointing performance likes of Scottish & Newcastle.

Analysts forecast full year this week. profits of around £610m, putting the shares, which fell 6p City is completely happy with are only at an early stage.



Arcadia's figures. The com-

pany has changed the way it

longer includes figures on like-

for-like sales and has stopped

breaking down the sales and

profits performances of the in-

dividual formats, such as Prin-

ciples, Top Man and Dorothy

says, because such information

could be commercially sensi-

tive. It also means the prying

eyes of the City and the Press

cannot see if any of the formats

show a 6.3 per cent increase on

ing however is the slight dip in

gross margin caused by higher

mark-downs. After the wettest

April in living memory there

John Hoerner, Arcadia's

chief executive, is a canny op-

erator and his plans to shuffle

the portfolio with more Racing

shining soon.

What we are given instead

has fallen on hard times.

This suits the company, it

prospective p/e ratio of 15. Allied's shares are worth holding on to but until signs of deals emerge they do not look cheap.

# Retail relief

the clothing retail sector that The problem is that while any results announcement that Allied is not doing anything does not include a warning on wrong as such, it cannot afford trading is greeted with relief all round and a bounce in the share price. Such was the case yesterday with Arcadia, the Diageo deal, will probably fall former Burton business which demerged from Debenhams in

Its shares jumped 32p to February were flat at £320m. 469.5p on first half profits up 21 per cent to £50m and news that current trading is satisfactory. This completes a good week for the two demerged from its pub division, which is Burton businesses after clearly underperforming the Debenhams also reported strong first half results earlier

Not that everyone in the Green and Hawkshead shops

ready look up with events after a strong run in January and February which saw them rise from the 3300 mark to. 508p. Assuming profits of. £182m in the full year, the shares trade on a forward rating of 15. That is a discount to the market but given the difficulties in the clothing sector at the moment it seems high enough. Powerscreen

# problems '

POWERSCREEN, the Northern Irish group which was rocked by an accountancy scandal last January, yesterday sold the business that was blamed for all the problems.

Matbro's assets were offloaded for £7m, which pales into insignificance when you consider that the "irregularities" are likely to cost the company at least £46.6m in the year just ended, pushing the whole group about £10m into the red in the year to the end of presents its results. It no March.

The group's auditors, KPMG, found cash-flow problems at Matbro, caused by mispricing products and excessive discounts. Powerscreen plans to write to its shareholders shortly, but for the time being it is keeping details of the auditors' findings under its hat. Yesterday the shares rose 8.5p to 190p, but are still worth less than a third of the 625p at which the company placed 3 million new shares to help fund a couple of acquisitions is retail sales densities which just before Christmas.

Matbro was the group's the year. Slightly more worry- star performer. There are vague rumours of an opportunistic bid for Powerscreen while the shares are depressed. and the City is still expecting could be more price-cutting to the company to make £30m in come if the sun does not start the year to March 1999, equal to earnings of 24p a share. But until the company is able to explain just what went on, and confirm that the damage has been confined to Matbro, it requires a real leap of faith to

**COMPUTER SYSTEMS** 



# Waterford weathers Asian storm

By Jeremy Warner

WATERFORD Wedgwood, the premier crystal and ceramics group, provided an astonishing insight at its annual general meeting yesterday into how company law has failed to keep pace with changes in technology and the process of globalisation.

The company's Anglo-Irish roots -Waterford from Ireland and Wedgwood from the UK - causes it to rotate its annual meeting on a biannual basis between London and

Dublin. This year it was London's turn. To allow participation of shareholders in Ireland, the company provided a satel-lite TV link to the Berkeley Court Hotel in

Dublin. Unfortunately, this would have rendered the formal proceedings of the meeting invalid because company law makes no provision for participation of shareholders ased in different jurisdictions.

Dr Tony O'Reilly, chairman, said that representations were being made at government level for a change in the law. As it turned out, there was only one question from the floor of the meetings in London, but many from Ireland after the formal proceedings had been concluded.

Dr O'Reilly gave an upbeat statement on trading and prospects. "The group is weathering the storm in Asia Pacific and has capitalised on the strength of the North American market," he said.

"It has launched new products, developed new businesses, invested in its core competencies and nurtured its brands. 1998 is proceeding to plan and we look to the future with confidence."

# Stagecoach buys into toll roads

By Michael Harrison

STAGECOACH, the acquisitive transport group, yesterday unveiled a major strategic shift by paying out £150m to expand into airport operation and toll roads.

The group is paying £41m to acquire Prestwick International Airport near Glasgow and £107m to take a 28 per cent stake in Road King, a Hong Kong-listed company which develops and operates toll roads in China.

The two deals will significantly expand Stagecoach's activities from its existing interests in the bus and rail markets and put it on a similar footing to National Exoperations covering, rail, road and airports.

The expansion will be financed through a placing and just under 1,000 kilometres of open offering of 15.5 million new shares to raise £160m

net of expenses. In addition to acquiring to 31 March, 1997.

Prestwick, Stagecoach is forming a new aviation subsidiary dedicated to building up airport operations in the UK and overseas.

Brian Souter, the Stagecoach chairman, said the fundraising would allow the group to expand into areas of and management could add

Stagecoach, which was founded by Mr Souter and his sister Ann Gloag, began as a coach operator in the early 1980s and has since grown into

In addition to its bus operations, it also owns South leasing company Porterbrook, Swebus.

Road King, which is registered in Bermuda, operates tolled highways in eight Chinese provinces and made pretax profits of £17m in the year

The Wai Kee group of companies, chaired by William Zen, owns 46 per cent of Road King.

Prestwick made profits of £2.2m on turnover of £21m in the year to 31 March, 1998.

Matthew Hudson, the owner of the airport, will have transport where its culture a 25 per cent stake in the new venture, Stagecoach Aviation, which is being set up to develop the group's interests in secondary airports.

Mike Kinski, who joined Stagecoach as chief executive recently from Scottish Power, one of Britain's biggest trans- will be responsible for the day to day running and development of the airport.

Stagecoach also forecast West Trains, the rolling stock that profits before tax for the year ended 30 April would be press, which also has and a Swedish bus business, £158m, giving it earnings per share of 48.1p.

The new shares are being placed at 1060p and shareholders will be entitled to has 25 years experience of the apply for two new shares for every 31 they hold.

Stagecoach shares rose 67.5p to close at 1208p.

# **Credit** move by Park

By Clifford German

PARK Foods, the Merseysidebased supplier of food hampers on credit, is moving into the credit business proper, offering small loans through its network of door-to-door collectors.

The service is aimed at social classes C2, D and E and will build on Park Foods' existing customer base of up to 1 million purchasers of food hampers.

Initially customers will be offered credit in the form of vouchers which are exchangeable for goods at local stores, including Iceland, Argos and British Home Stores, and paid for over 26 weeks. But after completing one successful credit cycle, customers will be offered small loans of up to £100, which might typically be repaid at £5 a week.

The new business will be run by Derek Wheeler, 49, who consumer credit business, mainly with Provident Financial. the leading UK provider of door-to-door credit.

# Sodastream sold

By Andrew Verity

TWENTY years after telling British children to "get bizzy with the fizzy", SodaStream, the firm that brought us homemade fizzy drinks, bas been swallowed by a Dutch-Israeli group for £15.5m.

Three directors of Soda-Stream, including Richard Handley, managing director, are expected to become millionaires after merging with the Soda-Club Group of the Netherlands and Israel. SodaStream, a Peterbor-

ough-based company, triggered a craze in the 1970s with a TV campaign to persuade children to make their own soft drinks. By pressing a button, kids could inject carbon dioxide into a mixture of water and concen-

trate. Sales boomed in the 1970s but the machines went out of fashion in the 1980s. In 1985 Kenwood, then owners of Soda-Stream, sold the business to Cadbury Schweppes for £22.5m.

While the British company's business went flat, Soda-Club's results sparkled as a new market was discovered in Germany, where hundreds of thousands of new machines are still sold every year.

The machines have grown popular in dry countries such as Israel, Morocco and Tunisia. Fountain House, a Canadian company which markets homemade gin and tonic or lager, has also entered a market which spans 16 countries.

Peter Wiseburgh, chief executive of Soda-Club, said the combined group should achieve sales of £100m this year.

COMPANY	RESUL	ΓS		
	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
Asom Group (F)	25.19m (30.03m)-	2.9m (-6.3m)	-3 7p (-7.0p)	nii (-)
Advanced Power Chapts	(1) 3.24m (2.64m)	0.575m (0.465m)	1.7p (1.45p)	0.40 (0.4p)
Atted Demacy (1)	2.21bn (2.319bn)	320m (317m)	21 1p (19.4p)	9.73p (9.44p)
Areadia (I)	776.2m (707.7m)	50.0m (41.2m)	19.1p (16.6p)	4.7p ((4.1p)
Bloomstery Publishing (	F) 13 705m (13.66r	n) 1.352m (1.202m	)11.02p (9 47p)	3.5p (3.5p)
Barolini Leisure (1))	8.541m (1 788m)	-10 3m (0.419m)	-8.4Sp (0 Sp)	nii (-)
General (advatries (M))	- (-)	0.015m (-)	0.3p (-)	- (-)
Highbary House Come (	F) 22 <u>.824m</u> (13.91n	n) 0.278m (1.828m	0.1p (4.1p)	nii (-)
HT Entertainment (1)	6.024m (6.605m)	1.148m (0.602m)	4.9p (3.4p)	0.55p (0.5p)
Intelligent Endreuments	(F) 4.44m (3.48m)	-3.01m (-1.38m)	-13 3p (-7.1p)	- (-)
Listen Park (F)	185 Ç4m (169.93n	n) 17 75m (10,92m	54.8p (38.5p)	16.0p (-)
Recycling Services (1)	12.256m (10.799n	n) 0.017m (O 412m	) 0.1p (1 9p)	nl (0.5p)
UK Estates (1)	(n	0.166m (0.161m)	0.33p (0.28)	0.15p (0.15p)
Usberne (I)	10.72m (92.865m)	0.257m (0.416m)	0.48p (0.97p)	매 (+)
Western (F)	14.56m (14.96m)	1.35m (1.3m)	11.79p (11.28p)	5.0p (5.0p)

owet Energy (i) 0.131m (0.199m) -0.031m (0.065m) -0.3p (0.6p) - (-)

(F) - Final (I) - Interfer (N) - Nitre Months † EPS is pre-exceptionals

# Leap in sales for insurers

By Andrew Verity

EVIDENCE of a boom in savings and investment mounted yesterday as two of the UK's largest insurers announced a leap in sales in the first three months of the year.

General Accident Life said new business in the first quarter had jumped by 25.5 per cent. That included a boost of 31.7 per cent in the amount of one-off, single premium sav- France. ings brought in by its sales force.

A leap in sales of single-premium investments saw customers take up £208m of GA's leapt to £279m, a six-fold in-Portfolio Bond, the company's crease. flagship investment. New single premium pensions totalled £118m.

Peter Hales, assistant general manager at GA Life, said: "These are very satisfactory fidence in the viability of the results, well in line with our long-term plans and likely to be ahead of market growth. We from British customers. continue to achieve substantial growth on a strong and profitable basis."

Life's parent group, announced on 25 February that it was to been tilt by a high level claims merge with Commercial Union. stemming from bad weather in one of its main rivals. The January. merger is set to be implemented by the end of June.

Commercial Union also reported a sharp boost in new business to its life insurance arm, particularly in one-off stockmarket correction.

sales. Worldwide, customers put premiums worth £981m into CU's coffers, up by 22 per

cent from last year.

match the sales of its merger partner in the UK. Sales of its Premier Investment Bond, which hit £88m last year, plummeted to £49m. In contrast to GA, CU sees itself as an international com-

However, CU failed to

pany. Of its £789m in new business, £267m came from CU forged a: deal in Italy with Banca Popolare di Lodi, one of Italy's largest mutual banks. Single premiums in Italy

CU's Polish life insurance operation, CU Polska, has also seen new business jump by 25 .

per cent. The results will boost condeal with GA, where most of the jump in new business came

For both companies, the results from life insurance will help to offset a hefty financial General Accident, GA blow to their general insurance operations this year. Both have

Saloman Smith Barney, the investment bank, yesterday said .

shares in composite insurers such as GA and CU were now good value following a modest



Offers end 15th May

# Doubts are banished as EMI leads Footsie rally

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

bull run was over evaporated. 211p against a 402.5p high. Confirmation that the showbiz group was a takeover target helped Footsie to rally 95.2 points to 5,928.3, Supporting indices were also

With financials recapturing some of their faded glory the market quickly took on a banished.

A strong New York and a other encouraging influences. gram spirits operation.

EMI, in hectic trading, was at one time 129p higher; the shares closed at 607.5p, up 99.5p. Both EM1 and its forpressing run since the dealent of 738p; Thorn, on the Schroders rallied 143p to pushed the shares 3p (after

higher as worries that the tified approach, rose 2p to minster Bank 42p to 1,197p.

also a mystery although most feel it is Seagram, the Canadian drinks group which of South Africa made an seems to get most of its kicks agreed £428m offer. The these days from its involve- estate agent and insurance opment in the entertainment erations are being demerged.

Allied Domecq, the retailmore positive appearance ing and spirits group, fell 6p and, at least for the time to 615p after six-month being, the doubts which had figures. If Seagram does bid nibbled at confidence were for EMI, Allied, under presside after the creation of further downgrading of Diageo, could find itself higher interest rate fears were forced to embrace the Sea-

Financials were helped along by some chirpy analysts' comments and, in the case of fictitious 960p to 944.5p. At insurers, good new business figmer partner, the Thorn ures. Commercial Union, rentals group, have had a de- which has endured a depressing run, jumped 82p to 1,119p merger in the summer of and its chosen partner, General 1996. EMI touched the equiv- Accident, put on 88p to 1,406p.

Hambros, one of the City's EMI's would be acquirer is oldest merchant banks with a

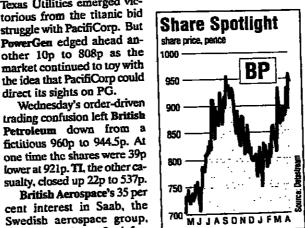
Energy, the electricity group, fell 26.5p to 638.5p as Texas Utilities emerged victorious from the titanic bid struggle with PacifiCorp. But PowerGen edged ahead ansure to develop its drinks other 10p to 808p as the market continued to toy with the idea that PacifiCorp could direct its sights on PG.

> trading confusion left British Petroleum down from a one time the shares were 39p lower at 921p. TI, the other casualty, closed up 22p to 537p. British Aerospace's 35 per cent interest in Saab, the

EMI led the stock market receiving end of a yet uniden- 2,933p and National West- 25p) higher to 1,998p. BG now embracing stockbroker Unigate became involved in higher to 1,998p. BG now embracing stockbroker Unigate became involved in higher to 1,998p. BG now embracing stockbroker Unigate became involved in Dresduer Kleinwort Benson support

Water shares were ruffled by a suggestion from the industry regulator Ofwat that they could be more efficient. Thames Water was lowered 10p to 975p and United Utilities 15p to 832p.

NRP, the property group



ing presented as a slimming turned at 76.5p, against a 69.5p suspension price.

aid. The yoghurt has been on

sale in Sweden since the start

of the year and launched re-

cently in this country under

the Skane Dairy Maval name.

traded, recovering 7p to 60p.

Zeneca gained 124p to 2.576p

after its breast cancer drug,

Nolvadex, went to the US

Food and Drug Administra-

tion for approval and its mi-

graine drug was said to be safe

when taken with the anti-

depression treatment Prozac.

that the Glaxo Wellcome-

SmithKline Beecham merger

will be resurrected helped

SB 25.5p higher to 713p and

Inch Kenneth Kajang, the

Malaysian leisure and plan-

tation group, had another re-

markable session, gaining

250p to 625p. The shares

have risen 500p in two days.

Glaxo 49p to 1,690p.

Share Price Data

Continuing, if faint, hopes

British Biotech was busily

AMEC the building group which has been the subject of takeover action, hardened 5.5p to 182p. A persistent buyer has been evident. Credit Lyonnias says buy. declaring: "The recovery is

well under way". MSB International, the computer group, firmed 2.5p to 970p after director Mark Goldberg placed shares at 950p, raising £23.75m, which gives him the war chest to buy the 85 per cent of Crystal Palace FC he does not own.

Belhaven Brewery enjoyed a speculative run, gaining 10p to 205p, a peak. Finance director David Morrison said no takeover approach had been made. Greenalls, the hotel and pub chain, was another to collect a round of rumours; the shares added 10.5p to 485p.

Scotia, the drugs group, improved 36.5p to 376.5p as A year ago they were 850p.

TAKING STOCK

SHIELD DIAGNOSTIC rose 50p to 627.5p as rumours of corporate action went round the market. Merck of the US and Roche of Switzerland were the names in the frame. The American group was said to plan a 950p bid; Roche would be content with paying 800p a share for 30 per cent. The only development was share buying by stockbroker Colin Blackbourn, a longtim fan of Shield. He lifted his stake to more than 3 per cent, believing the shares are "ridiculously cheap" and "unfairly tarnished as a speculative stock". By increasing his stake to a notifiable level be has, he says, put his money where is

ROBERT WALTERS, the high flying recruitment group, shaded 11p to 467.5p after Mertill Lynch lowered its recommendation from buy to neutral. Its cut its profits forecast by £1m to £10m for this year and is looking for £12.8m next. The shares touched 574.5p last month.





(That's another 300 million really tuned-in to our city.)

| Price Cog YidCode | High Law Stock | Wild | High Law Stock | High Law St

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# Why global markets need to be open to free information flows



DIANE **COYLE** ON THE MOST **IMPORTANT** LESSON FROM ASIA'S CRISIS

WE LIVE in an economy whose life blood is information. It is one of the things that everybody knows. Everybody, that is, save for one category of players in the world economy – governments. Governments need to wise up to the information age, not in terms of having the right kind of technology policy or enthusing about the internet in speeches, but in the more fundamental sense of recognising that less than full disclosure of information is an economic inefficiency as much as a matter of democracy. This is the deep-

est lesson of the Asian crisis. There is a great appetite to draw lessons from Asia, to try to avoid repeats. The responses are tending to fall into two camps. One, the backlash camp. has concluded that globalisation is a Bad Thing, and needs to be tamed and resisted. It has a lunatic fringe but its more sensible proposals include introducing restrictions on inflows of foreign "hot money" by imposing reserve requirements for the first year of an erning investment by multiinward investment - the system

Another popular idea is a "Tobin Tax", a small tax on OECD meeting, demanding a foreign-exchange transactions which would, in the words of its inventor, the Nobel laureate James Tobin, throw sand in the

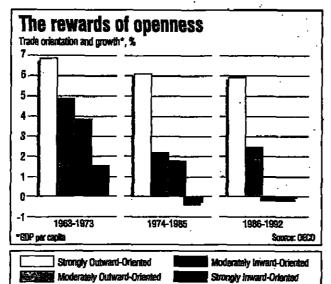
wheels of the global markets when they are careering out of

The opposite point of view, the Panglossian camp that insists all is for the best in the globalising world economy, reckons the crisis reflects inadequate liberalisation. Its proponents will admit that globalisation causes upheavals and problems about the distribution of gains. Nevertheless, the gains are undeniable. A new report from the OrganisationOECD this week, "Open Markets Matter", from which the chart is taken, spells out the links between free trade, free investment and economic prosperity. The moral drawn by this camp is that, whatever the turmoil caused by the crisis, it is essential to press ahead with more and more deregulation and globalisation. Preventing crises is a matter of liberalising in a more measured way, perhaps, and with better supervision, but it must go ahead with minimal political interference. Of course, the fact that the

into two basically opposed camps has set the stage for a series of political rows over what has become known as the international financial architecture. Take the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI), which crumbled at this week's OECD meeting, to the undisguised glee of some campaigners. The long negotiations had shaped this into a sensible set of rules, with some exclusions to defend national interests and the first ever recognition of basic environmental and social standards in a multilateral treaty. But it has been derailed by politicians recognising a domestic backlash against globalisation, even though they will privately admit that a new framework gov-

initial reactions have divided

nationals is needed. As France's minister of commerce put it at this week's suspension of the talks: "Globalisation ... has a fundamental human, social and environmental dimension which must



measurement is necessarily a bit rough and ready - explain more

of the difference in growth than

do conventional measures such

as exports as a share of GDP.

Professor Rodrik concludes:

The main message that I take

from the kind of evidence pre-

sented here is that it is not

whether you globalise that mat-

ters, it is how you globalise. The

world market is a source of dis-

ruption and upheaval as much

as it is an opportunity for prof-

therefore demands a programme

of institutional reform, which

would include - on top of the IMF

recipe of low government budget

deficits, an anti-inflation strategy

and privatisation - an improve-

ment in the quality of the gov-

ernment apparatus. It would

require increased democratis-

ation in place of the typical

technocratic approach to eco-

nomic management in emerging

markets. And it would need an

improved social safety net so

that the damage caused by crises

like the present one in Asia do not

fall entirely on the very poorest.

taken up by another economist,

Rudi Dornbusch at the

Massachusetts Institute of

Technology (in a paper avail-

able from his web site at

http://web.mit.edu/rudi/www/).

Professor Dornbusch is sym-

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One of these themes is

Taking part in globalisation

it and economic growth."

be taken into account from the quality of the civil service and start." It could not be left to the so on. These influences - whose experts and diplomats alone, he argued.

However unfortunate the effects of French stubbornness on the MAI - a treaty which does more than most international financial agreements to recognise such concerns - it indicates that some more considered assessments of the Asian crisis and its lessons for globalisation are starting to filter through. For the backlash camp ignores the huge economic gains that the post-war process of globalisation has delivered, while the Panglossian camp overlooks the justified political concerns about the costs imposed by the way that process is occurring.

A recent paper by Harvard economics professor Dani Rocirik attempts to explain why some developing countries have enjoyed massive gains in per capita living standards while others have not. So, despite the past year's upheavals, Asia has fared well while Latin America has not. He finds the key is not simply the degree of openness to the world economy. Rather, it is how well different countries handle the turbulence that inevitably results from setting sail on the choppy seas of globalisation.

"How well" turns out to depend on institutional factors such as the degree of ethnic division within a country, the extent of military repression, the pathetic to proposals like a Tobin tax or controls on shortterm capital. But he points out that they cannot prevent crises, any more than seat belts prevent car crashes: "A Tobin tax would not have avoided the Asian bankruptcy. Anyone who contemplates a 30 per cent depreciation will happily pay a 0.1 per

He adds that high transaction costs in emerging markets add up to the equivalent of a Tobin tax anyway. Rather than emphasising capital controls or other brakes on globalisation, he concludes: "A modern answer to the question of integration with the world capital market is enthusiastically positive."

Capital markets deliver the potential for higher living standards and prevent governments from running bad economic policies - all round good news for savers, investors and workers. The catch with liberalisation as we know it, he argues, is a shortage of information to make it work properly.

For if modern economies rely on information, for the financial markets it is essential. Financial crises all, in some way, result from unexpected bad news. Crisis prevention depends on minimising the unexpected. The real lesson is not that financial systems in emerging markets need to be better supervised or sweetheart deals with cronies brought to an end. It is that maximum disclosure is absolutely key. Professor Dornbusch condemns the IMF and the credit rating agencies for their failure to transmit necessary information to the markets.

His conclusion can be taken one step further. It is not just to the markets that openness and transparency are essential. They are also fundamental to the political credibility of globalisation. People do not trust experts who tell them everything is all for the best when it patently is not. If one result of events in Asia is to help end the technocratic dominance of international finance, this will help ensure that globalisation really does deliver the benefits

## PEOPLE & **BUSINESS**

IOHN WILLCOCK



THE former chairman of BNB Resources is sneing the headhunting company for £2.1 million over his departure earlier this year following a boardroom row.

Co-founder David Norman resigned from the company in February after a disagreement over the future of Norman Broadbent International, the high profile headhunting business of which Mr Norman was executive

Since then he has been negotiating a compensation package with the company, but this week the talks broke down and he issued a writ demanding compensation. The company says it will contest the action.

Mr Norman was on a two-year rolling contract at BNB. In 1996 he was paid £627,000, in a year when the company made pre-tax profits of just £6.36 million.

Then last year Miles Broadbent, another co-founder of the business, left with several other senior staff to set up a rival firm. Under pressure from shareholders, Mr Norman scaled his role back from chairman and chief executive, and spent the last two and a half months of the year as non-executive chairman. His pay fell to £397,000 in 1997.

Then in February Mr Norman resigned, according to the company, "as a result of differences regarding strategy and management". He is not exactly destitute at the moment, however. On 17 April he exercised a range of options and sold 1, 159,591 shares in BNB, when the share price was hovering around the £2 mark.

The company, which also owns a raft of IT, advertising and middle management selection agencies, has instructed City law firm Slaughter & May to defend it.

The company said yesterday: "The board regrets that Mr Norman has felt unable to accept proposals made by the board which, it has been advised, would fairly compensate Mr Norman in accordance with the Company's contractual obligations to him. Accordingly it is the Board's intention to defend this writ."

MARGARET BECKETT, President of the Board of Trade, has obtained a disqualification order for the maximum 15-year period allowed against Stephen James Musker.

Mr Musker acted as a director of Stration Europe, a company involved in the development of oil drill tagging technology in Billingham, Cleveland.

An inquiry into Stratton in 1994 under the Companies Act, which was then confirmed by a court hearing, revealed Mr Musker's misconduct. This included, according to the DTI yesterday, "the production of a forged board minute, the issue of shares to himself and associates for no valid consideration, false representations to investors to induce them to invest, and the drawing of substantial personal benefits for himself and associates when the company was clearly unprofitable."

The court also considered "Mr Musker's record of involvement in a number of other corporate failures in recent years," the DTI

DAVID GRAY has been appointed finance director to Golf Club Holdings, a company which owns the Lambourne, the South Winchester and the Vale Golf Club, amongst Which raises the obvious question: Do you

have to be good at golf to get the job? "Not at all," replies Mr Gray, modestly. When asked whether he has a handicap, he says: "Only my lack of talent."

In fact, Mr Gray sees this lack of success on the fairway as a positive advantage, in that he will approach his job with a clear view, untainted by any enthusiast's passions.

He recalls his 15 years at Thorn EMI in order to back up his argument: "Its like anything else. You wouldn't expect Jim Fifield to be a devastating rock n'roll

Mr Fifield, of course, recently hit the headlines by receiving a £12m payoff from EMI when he left the music company.

Mr Gray gained valuable experience working as finance director for David Lloyd Leisure during the period when the former tennis star's company was floating.

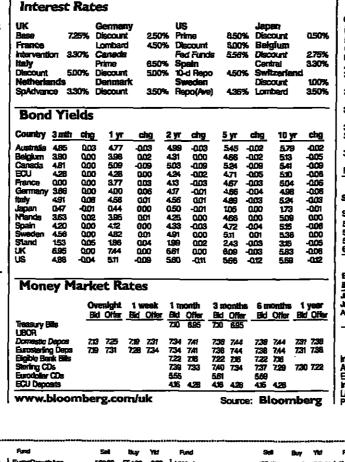
But he is still proud of his comparative lack of sporting prowess. He says the "golf business is littered with the corpses" of businesses set up by golf nuts who fancied indulging their obsession.

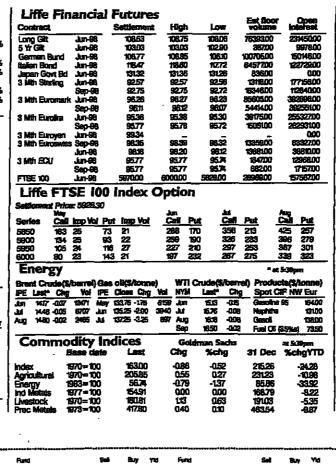
IF YOU get fish fingers the next time you are invited to lunch at accountants Ernst & Young, here's why: Terry Carter of E&Y's corporate recovery team has just been appointed to restructure a Bulgarian fishing company, Okeanski Ribolov.

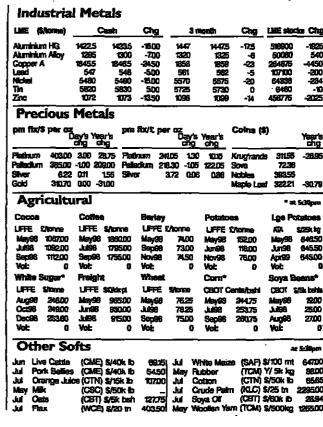
Terry was appointed by the Bourgas District Court following a request by shareholders. The business owns and controls port facilities in Bourgas, including a 400-metre wharf and a hotel. It also runs five fish freezer ships, three of which are currently out fishing in the Atlantic.

Mr Carter will compile a report for Bulgaria's Ministry of Industry, and will then attempt to sell the business as a going concern. So if you know of a market for Bulgarian fish fingers, give him a bell.



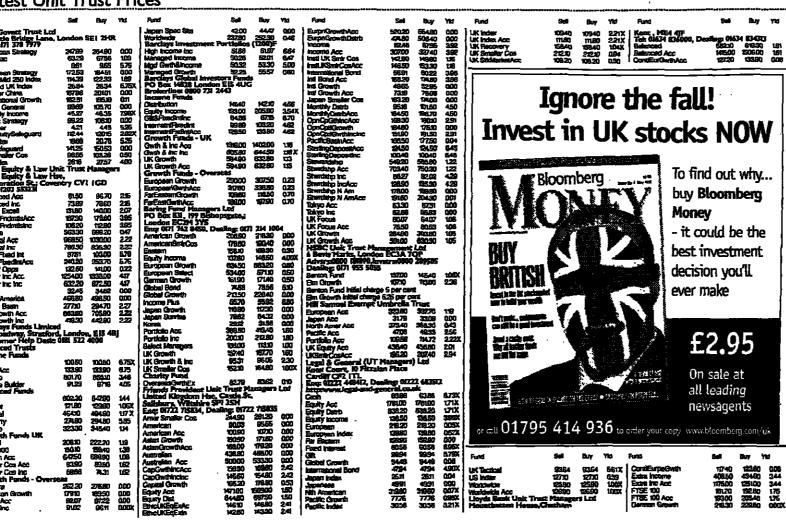


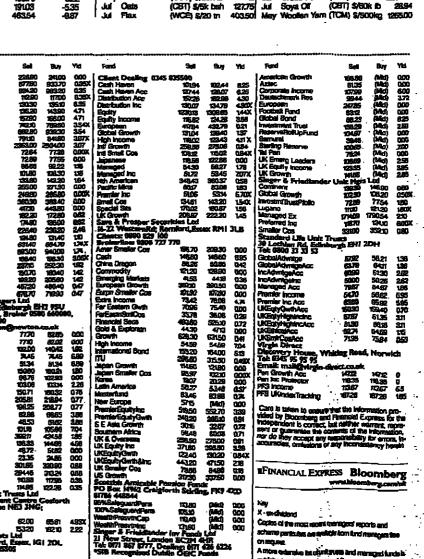




**Latest Unit Trust Prices** 

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Newmarket 2.05

# Godolphin delegation drops Embassy

By Richard Edmondson

THE ABSENTEE notes started to collect yesterday in advance of this weekend's Guineas meeting at Newmarket and the most notable omission will be Godolphin's Embassy from the fillies' Classic.

Last season's Cheveley Park winner has survived the aircraft food on the journey from the Emirates, but, like plastic cutlery, she is to be saved for another day.

"Her progress has not been as good as we have wanted for Sunday and it would not have was Lady in wanting, radii cole has been unable to exercise his be left in the hands of John Carbeen fair on her to run, "Simon filly for the last two mornings

Crisford, Godolphin's racing because of her damaged foot said, we are pleased with her. attempt to translate her good She is doing well."

The Arabian team will now be represented solely by Cape Verdi and is not exactly compromised by having just a sin-Verdi was heavily backed once again this morning." again yesterday and the former property of Robert Sangster finished trading at 7-4 (from 2-1)

with Coral. A further probable scratching from the 1,000 Guineas was Lady In Waiting. Paul Cole

gallops form to the Newmarket flatlands.

"It is looking unlikely that she will run." the Whatcombe trainer said yesterday, "She has gle warrior in the contest. Cape a problem and missed work

Cole's former inmate Central Park now seems to be Godolphin's main weapon in tomorrow's 2,000 Guineas. The colt will be steered by Frankie Dettori, while the travelling

The other two Godolphin gally bred debutant Nasaayem. er winner Silver Patriarch, d'Essai des Poulains (French recently in Britain. 2,000 Guineas).

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Jack Robbo (Sedgefield 8.00) NB: Busy Flight (Newmarket 4.50)

A clue to Godolphin's strength this season, the fifth when their buccancering ships have tied up in Britain, comes this afternoon when Mutawwaj is produced alongside the re-

3.10: A fascinating clash between 3.40: Before investing in this cavalry charge it could pay to watch earlier races on this card in case the results point to where the best ground is. PHONETIC looks interesting among the high numbers. He 12 months ago. Of those drawn nearer the stands side. Tallulah Belle is fancied to go well for Jason Weaver.

manager, said yesterday. That and she now appears unlikely to entries, Altibr and Zaya, will be They will at least have the ben-whose effort (for breeding syngoing through customs once efft of good ground unrecog- dication purposes) to be estabagain as they point at the Poule nised by most garden-tenders lished as the leading 12-furlong "It was dry today and dry ves-

> terday and the forecast is pretty encouraging for the weekend," Nick Lees, the Newmarket clerk of the course, said warm on Saturday and hot on Sunday, so things are looking up. There will be good ground for tomorrow and Saturday unless anything untoward happens."

This relative Suffolk desert witnesses the seasonal reappearance today of the St Leg-

creature has been facilitated by the retirement of Peintre Cele-

Those close to the horse inform that we will see a far more mature beast emerge yesterday. "It [the forecast] is from the saddling area this afternoon for the Jockey Club Stakes. It will be no easy for Silver Patriarch, however, as his opponents include more than water-bearers. The bonny Celeric is his stable's support act, while the Derby third Ro- track was waterlogged. manov, and the talented cou-

pling of Kingfisher Mill and Happy Valentine, will also ensure this is much more than a criumphal march.

There is a further Group contest in a Sagaro Stakes which has been kept in cold storage from Ascot's abandoned Wednesday card. There is a great favourite (if not a market favourite) here in Double Trigger, who will wrestle with the likes of Persian Punch and Busy Flight.

● Today's scheduled race meeting at Newton Abbot was abandoned yesterday because the

#### Mahler at concert pitch

DAVID NICHOLSON and was enjoying his first success as Nigel Twiston-Davies took a jockey on Irish soil in the Grade One prizes at Pun- £60,000 Heineken Gold Cup. chestown Festival's final day yesterday with Mahler and Zafarabad.

deputising for Adrian Maguire. Carl Llewellyn, on Mahler,

Zafarabad won the Champion Four Year Old Hurdle, with the rider Richard Johnson

21 74 21 58 64 74 64 74 7-1 81 84 81 15-1 12-1 11-1 15-1 124 101 111 101 94 <u>11</u>4 <u>104 124</u> 141 141 121 141 Raine A King 21 21 141 141 Lega Lady 141 141 21 141 16-1 14-1 14-1 16-1 Legs Be Francky 25-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 조1 조1 <u>보니 조1</u> 80-1 50-1 40-1 33-1 Each way, a quarter the odds, places 1, 2, 3 C Coral H With Hit L Ladinshes, TTotal

Newmarket 3.10			4		
Horse	C	<u>H</u>	<u> </u>	T	
Silver Pointatch	52	52	3-1	<u>84</u>	
Kingdaher Mill					
Acquance -					
The Fly					
Heppy Valentine					
Celeric					
Book At Bertima					
Sopilei					
Each way, a 6th the colds, places 1, 2, 3					
C Corel, H Wim Hil, L Ladbrokes, T Total					

## HYPERION'S TV TIPS

Newmarket

1.35 Last Reputation (nb)

STALLS: Far side DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Old Tradition, 12-1 others 1997: Jain 3 8 Ti 7: Hills 5-4 lav (B Hanbury) drawn (B) 9 ran FORM GUIDE

2.05 £10,000 added 3YO 7f ANWADES HA

3.10 Silver Patriarch

2.35 Sensory

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NEWMARKET 2.05: JILA won readily by three lengths over course and distance 17 days ago. Despite being raised in the handicap by 81b, Robert Armstrong's colt can put his finishing kick to good effect against today's rivals. Chattan, drawn on the wide outside, also won on his reappearance - at Doncast-

HYPERION

STALLES; Fat side: Untaw ALIVARITAGE: None.

Pright-hand course with Int2 streight (this streight on July course).

Course is SW of form on A30A. But link from Cambridge and Newmarket stations.

ADMISSION: Club 116; Grandstand 3 Paddock 11; Femily Enclosure 13, CAR PARK:

1.35 PORTLAND LODGE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV I) £7,000 added 3YO 7f

HETTING: 7-2 Nassayem, 11-2 Digitalize, Karlyt, 7-1 Last Reputation, 8-1 Hebony, Jocasta, 10-1 Old Tradition, 12-1 others

FORM GUIDE

The strong tancy from Anindel KARIYH takes in this engagement after missing out when Ascot on Wednesday was abandoned. The daughter of Shadeed is reported a bit special so she is likely to take pierry of beating. Last Reputation fell shout in the closing stages in the muddy conditions when fourth to shock winner Suitana here last month. The feeing is she will not improve enough to turn over the Dunlop debutants. Lucy Gilland Conditions when the property of the p

there is from a yard gong well and she shaped nicely on her sole juvenile start. Henry Ce-cil has yet to strike form, so Digitalize is best watched, as is John Gosden Hebony, along with Jocassa. who may again need this run after a promising debut fifth to Auf here last backend.

AURISSION: CDD STO; Grandstand & Paddock STI; Farmy Enclosure E3, UAR I Members St; remainder free.

LEADING TRAINERS; H Cacil 39 winners from 168 runners gives a success i 23.2%, J Gooden 22-160 (13.5%), B Hills 22-211 (10.4%), M Stouta 19-197 (19.5%), LEADING JOCKEYS; L Dettori 57 winners from 335 notes gives a success i 17%, Pat Eddery 45-267 (15.9%), M Hills 27-247 (10.9%) R Hills 26-188 (13.8%), FAVOURITES; 206 wins in 811 races (33.7%).

SAVOURITES; 206 wins in 811 races (33.7%).

4.15 SUPERCAL (nap)

5.20 Myzomela

2.35: Much interest will focus here on Mutawwai, who flies the Godolphin banner. The performance of Frankie Dettori's mount could indicate the quality of the Godolphin challenge in this weekend's big events, it would be unwise, though, to ignore the claims of SENSORY. The drying ground will suit the er last mouth - and poses a big threat. Horris Hill Stakes runner-up.

older horses expected to be leading lights in too middle-distance prizes this summer. Fitness at this early stage of the scason may well decide which of SILVER PATRIARCH. Kingfisher Mill and Romanov takes the honours today. News from Sussex is that the first-named is in line shape for his seasonal debut.

5530 SALSETTE (213) (Saead Manara) C Britain 7 t2. Mt Honry 11 107 600 SURPRISE PRESENT (17) (Mohamed Suhali) R Hannon 7 10. R Mullen (3) 5 97

Chattan must hold every chance, John Dunlop fields a leading player in Huljoom, who showed his July course form to be all wrong when winning a nursery at Ayr. In a tough Listed race on his final start, Huljoom should relish this severith turlong and the ground should also suit. Ideband is another who was in a Listed race after a win. His debut shorthead second to subsequent Middle Park winner Hayl is offecent form so he would not be without a chance even off 9st 5to. Relies A King was useful lest term but has 8st 7to for his troubles, and Rejected does not look good anough. Risque Lady is well regarded but just looks held by Raise A King on nursery from behind Monte Lemos. The plus for her, however, is the well-being of the yards horses and Kieren Falon is booked. Sest of the light weights is Salestet, even though her nursery run at the backern was disapporting. Barry Hite, trainer of Chattan, also runs Asyssed, who is up in distance after his juvenile promise, his best run being on a faster surface on his debut.

Selection: CHATTAN

2.35 KUWAIT GREEN RIDGE STABLES NEWMARKET C4 

All six are malong their reeppearance and the two to leave out would seem to be Dr Fong, whose stable is nardy firing at the moment, and Tavernar Society. Rabah was 12 lengths behind Dr Fong in bad ground at Ascot leat October, but he came out to beat two rivals on the better ground here. Rabah should go well with the stable being in good form, but ALMANDAB is the type to progress from two juvenile starts and Pat Eddery is aboard. This longer trip should also suit and the style of his win at Nottingham (by nine lengths) suggests he can be followed in his second spell, Mutawwell finished with a win from Achilles at Goodwood, but the longer trip after the rain may not suit. Sentany's winning form at Laicester has worked out well. Second to La-Faah in a Group 3 at Newbury on his final start, he may always went fastish ground being a son of Seltin. Selection: ALMANDAB

1 SAGITTA JOCKEY CLUB STAKES (GROUP 2) 3.10 (CLASS A) 265,000 added 1m 4f 

son (peasen in this less year). Happy Valentine has not run since a juvenile debut win at Yarmouth, while Kingfisher Mill was two langths behind Silver Patriarch in the Great Voltigeur, yet he was all-out to win at Ascot atterwants when a head winner from Romanow, who is reported well enough forward.

Selection: SEVER PATTARICH

		-
3.	40	MILCARS HANDICAP (CLASS D) £8,000 added C4
1	esson-	GIFT TOKEN (189) (Mrs D Blie) D Chappel 49 10
2	41770/	HUGWITY (892) (D) (SF) (G C Bravery) G Bravery 6 9 TO
ā	0.050	GONE FOR A BURTON (J89) (D) (H P Carregion) P Majon 8 99 Pat Eddary 7 84
ă	00440	200M UP (31) P. Maeck) M Heston-Sils 4 9 8
5	50 OO	WELLAKI (USA) (22) (CTS Racing Partnership) J Gosden 497
ě	16640-	SHADOOF (222) (BF) (Mrs H Levy) W Mur 4 9 7
7	545-E5	JUDICIAL SUPPLEMACY (10) (W.) Gredey 8 145 4 95
8	0-0003	SECRET BALLOT (7) (D) (Waleed Al-Mutava) K Mand 495
ğ		BRANDON JACK (13) (D) (R P B Michaelson)   Baiding 4 9 4
10	32160	AFFEVING (188) (D) (Myck Hall Stud) J Hills 484
ī	A5-05	INDIUM (66) (W.J. Musson) W. Musson 4 9 2
12	00200-	SYLVAN PRINCESS (294) (J. R. Barrioriti) M. Warra 5 8 13
6		PHONETIC (11) (Mass B Swite) G Baiding 5 8 13
14	6306-5	PRINCESS DANIELLE (13) (D) (Mrs Marion Wickham) W Mair 689
5	02814-	DELLUA (200) (D) (BF) (Kitalid M Affara) J Hills 4 8 9
16	14000	MUTADARRA (189) (D) (Ars Rife Brown) W Musson 589
ĩ	35450-	CARLYS QUEST (JOS) LI Neville) J Neville 4 8 8
18	£2900-	HARMONY HALL (J137) (Reymond Tooth) J Farshave 4 B 7
19		WILD PALM (241) (S Rustol.) Mrs. A E Johnson 687
20	1201-2	TALLULAH BELLE (13) (D) (Trojan Racing) N Littmoden 5 6 7
21	0003-	PRAETORIAN GOLD (183) [Gold Busier Syndicate] R Harron 3 7 t3 R Ffrench 10 97
22	4005.5	GAIN LINE (USA) (30) (3F) (Lagend Racing Club) C Dayer 5 7 10
23	10500/	FERRUFINO (450) (P M Rich) P Rich 10 7 10
24	258-00	IRON MOUNTAIN (15) (Galagher Equire List) N Calaghan 3 7 10 Lowe 2 86
		- 24 declared -
Modern	rum Wesic	ht: 7at 10th. True handicap weights: Ferrulino, Iron Mountain 7st 8th.
		The state of the s

BETTING: 9-1 Secret Ballot, Tallulah Balle, 11-1 Gift Tokan, Mutad Denielle, Welleid, 18-1 Arriving, Iron Moustrain, 18-1 Gone For A Burton, 20-1 others 1997: Champagne Prince 4 9 7 C Lowiter (7) 7-1 (P Hams) drawn (2) 18 ran FORM GUIDE

Plenty of runners but the grade does not look that strong. Two Iliaeble runners are Brandon Jack, a winner at Goodwood and Sandown last season and sure to be sharper for a run behind Rutland Chantry at Newbury, and MUTADARRA, who is well handicapped on his win over the trip on the July course last term. Brandon Jack is 4th higher for the latest win but the stable is going well enough to suggest he will go close. Princeas Danilelle, fifth in that Newbury handicap, can be expected to do better on this petter ground and rates a threat. The booking of Kleren Fallon suggests a good run from Gift Tolisan, who came to hand early last season with a maiden win at Saisbury. Wellaid has done nothing on two starts this term to suggest he can take this. Secret Ballot holds a prominent position in the market but he looks bestable effer the recent third to Therhea at Sandown. Arriving can be considered on her best form, and the ground will suit Phonetic, who is 20 lower for the mud win at Newbury a year ago.

Selection: MUTADARRA

[4.15] EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS DAHLIA STAKES (LISTED RACE) (CLASS A) £17,000 added 1m 1f Penalty Value £10,775

	-y
1231-	SAAPEYA (182) (C) (Shelifi Ahmed Al Makdoum) J Gosden 4 6 12 L Deltori
3320-6	SUPERCAL (16) (The Catedonian Racing Society) D Baworth 4 8 12
	HEAVENLY RAY (USA) (181) (Chereley Park Stud) J Farishere 489
04203-	PRIENA (199) (BF) (Cuedra Africa) W Jarvis 4 8 9
313-	SOVIET ARTIC (FR) (164) (R E Sangsler) P Chappie-Hyam 489 Reld 4
	STAR PRECISION (18) (Mas B Swire) G Balding 4 8 9
631-5	TOPATORI (18) (BF) (M P Bowring) M Tomplans 4 8 9
1535-1	YABINT EL SULTAN (13) (G S D imports Litt) B McMahon 489
	-8 declared -

BETTING: 9-4 Starfeys, 7-2 Supercal, 4-1 Star Precision, 7-1 Yabini El Suffan, 8-1 Topatoni, 18-1 Prigne, 12-1 Soviet Artic, 14-1 Henventy Ray, 1997: Betalaise 4 8 9 L Dettori 10-11 tev (L Cumani) drawn (5) 7 ran FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Most of these look bestable against John Gosten's SAAFEYA, winner of a decent handloap at Haydock lest September under a big weight and later successful from Sandmoor
Chambray in Listed company on this course. Being a daughter of Sadar's Wells, Sasteya
is taken to look even better on this type of ground against her own sex. Yablint El Sultan, winner of the Newbury Spring Cup on her reappearance, copes with cut in the ground,

Sedgefield

HYPERION

but she was tour lengths behind Saaleya in the Haydock handicap and a 3b pull may not be enough for a reversel. Heaventy Ray and Prisna would not appear good enough, and Star Pracision is another who may lack the finishing lick of Saaleya. Topatori is a Leicester handicap where with title hope, and Supercal and the ex-French traked Soviet Artic would also seem to have something to find. Selection: SAAFEYA

4.50 SAGARO STAKES (GROUP 3) (CLASS A) £30,000 added 2m 45yds 

- 10 declared -BETTING: 7-2 Semraen, 4-1 Busy Flight, 5-1 Pensian Punch, 6-1 Double Trigger, Three Cheers, 7 1 Windsor Castle, 8-1 I'm Supposin, 20-1 others 1997: Orchestra Stall 5 & 12 T Quinn 9-1 (J Duniop) drawn (1) 8 ren

1997: Orchestre Stell 5 & 12 T Culm 9-1 (J Dunlop) drawn (I) 8 nm
FORM GUIDE
THREE CHEERS won twice after the Queen's Vase second to Windsor Castle at Royal Ascot. This is a tough race to sort out, but Windsor Castle might just be better on last ground whereas Three Cheers stayed every yard with the cut in the turt to beat Bonepartiste in a Group 3 at Longotramp at the backend. Samman has still to show he truly gets two miles and is not considered even though he finished in front of Windsor Castle when second to Double Editise in the Yorkshire Cup. Persian Punch did better than Double Trigger in the Doncaster Cup when second to Castle at the Curregh in September. Double Tricrash has shown he can win when tresh and he was superor to Petram Punch and The runn samman when second to Oscar scrimater at the Curragh in september. Double Thigger has shown he can win when tresh and he was superior to Persan Punch and Samman at Goodwood lest July, though on ground a lot fester than this. Busy Flight was a disappointing third to Kallaria at Newbury last backend and might just be worth watch-ing today, while the ground could just be a bit too soft for I'm Suppositin, who can win a race of this description judged on his showing against Posidonas over 12 furlongs at New-bury after his third in the Champion Flurdie.

5.20 PORTLAND LODGE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV II) £7,000 added 3YO 7f .D G (10) 10 Dage O'Neil 14 SWEET PEA (Nicholas Jones) J Duniop 8 11 .

- 15 declared 
BETTING: 5-1 Saring Along, 6-1 Jinstyah, 7-1 Myzomata, 8-1 Come Up Smiling, Dacism, Miss Divot, Phygroup, 10-1 others
1997: See Division 1

tan Balding has his second season horses in fine form, so his Disass newcomer DACIAN is chanced at fair odds in favour of her stablemate Royal Arrow. A big threat is likely to be John Dunlop's newcomer Sweet Pea. Cirns Wall's Swing Along was a 50-1 head-second to Auth here last backand but here looks beatable. Ben Harbury's Afrishyals was third to 50-1 winner Sultana here last month with Playgroup about five lengths behind in sixth. Jinsiyah should confirm the form and looks the big threat. Another newcomer is John Gosen's Myzomele, a daughter of Kris S and from a stable that had a newcomer winner at Bath in the week. Berry Hils won the Wood Ditton with a fifty and Princess Sceptre, out of the staying mare Sans Blague, has to be on the short ist.

Salection: DACIAN

#### Musselburgh

HYPERION

2.20 Kildee Lad 2.50 Three Tenners 3.25 Run For Russ 4.00 Ladycake 4.30 Mr Fortywinks 5.05 Mybotye

GOING: Good
STALLS: Straight - far side; Round course - inside.
DRAW ADVANTAGE: High numbers best for 77 & fm.

Right-hand oval course with tight turns.
Course is 5m E of Edinburgh on A1. ADMISSION: Cub \$12; Tetters
Course is 5m E of Edinburgh on A1. ADMISSION: Cub \$12; Tetters 15 (OAPs and unemployed £3), Accompanied under 16s tree. CAR PARK: First

LEADING TRAINERS: J Berry 34-148 (23%), M Johnston 15-103 (145%), Mrs M Reveley 13-79 (155%), D Smith 9-05 (125%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: J Carroll 22-51 (145%), J Fortune 18-145 (121%), L Charnock 15-116 (129%), A Culhane 13-87 (148%)

FAVOURITES: 175-46 (421%),

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Hype Superior (2-20), Feet A Line (visored,

25U) LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER: Total Tropix (3.25) sent 370 miles.

2.20 RAMBLING RIVER AMATEUR RIDERS HAND-ICAP (CLASS F) \$4,000 added 5f | CCAP (CLASS F) 24,000 20000 51 | Mr R Hale 4 | Hall 0 | Mr Capps 6 | 12 0 | Mr R Hale 5 | Hall 0 | Mr Capps 6 | 12 0 | Mr Capps 6 | 13 | Mr Capps 6 | 14 | Mr Capps 6 | 14 | Mr Capps 6 | 14 | Mr Capps 6 | 15 | Mr Capps 6 | 16 | Mr Capps 6 |

32132 RISKY WHISKY (20) (D) (BF) J Berry 3 11 0. Miss Beverley Kendall (7) 7 B 00000- TROPICAL BEACH (175) (CD) J Pasrce 5 11 0 . Miss Leverley Kendall (7) 7 B 304200 SILK COTTAGE (15) (CD) R Bashman 8 10 12 Miss R Bestimen (7) 1 S0200 ANOTHER EPISODE (22) (D) Miss L Penrati 9 10 12 Miss E Remarken 13 S0200 ANOTHER EPISODE (22) (D) Miss L Penrati 9 10 12 Miss E Remarken 13 Miss E Remarken 13 Miss E Remarken 13 Miss E Remarken 13 Miss D Caster (7) 17 B 000-61 BALLANTRAE BOY (15) (D) J Golde 4 10 4 Mis D Jesesti (7) 3

2.50 HADDINGTON LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F) £4,000 added 1m 1846- FEEL A LINE (JB) M Hammond 496. \_\_\_A McCarthy (3) 

3.25 PORT SETON CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) E3,300 added 3YO 1m 4f 

4.30 MUSSELBURGH OLD COURSE HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,000 added 1m 4f 200-05 LORD ADVOCATE (27) (CD) D Noten 10 7 11 ..... BETTING: 3-1 Scramerhill Special, 7-2 Mr Fortywinks, 4-1 Filial, 11-2 Knowleyev Denter, 6-1 Embryonic, 6-1 George Dillinghitm, 14-1 Double Scho, 25-1 Lord Ad-THREE TENNERS (223) J Berry 3 8 4. HETTING: 2-1 Price of Bryn, 7-2 Tures Tempera, 5-1 Feel A Line, 7-1 Chinasa Of Peace, 8-1 Dannister, Beylirem, 20-1 Grand Hotel, Megic Fells, 25-1 others 5.05 BRUNTON HALL THEATRE HANDICAP (CLASS F) £4,000 added 7f TRAILBLAZER (238) C Thornton 4 10 0... SKYERS RLYER (7) M Warre 4 9 11 ... 4.00 ABERLADY MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2YO 57 BETTING: 9-2 Lunch Party, 5-1 Mybotys, 7-1 Two On The Bridge, 6-1 Styers Fly ec, Finisterre, Allinson's Miste, 10-1 Mibules, 12-1 others 0 PANDUOLOE (32) FI Fahey 9 0.....

LAUTICAUE J Berry 8 9 C Lowther (3) 1
5 3 LADY NARM (18) J J Duirn 8 9 J Fortsme 5
6 2 TANIPA LADY (27) M Johnson 8 9 Dear McKeown 4
BETTING: evens Tanipa Ledy, 7-2 Ladycaka, 6-1 Lady Naim, 7-1 Northern Svengaß, 10-1 Leicester Tiger, 16-1 Paccifojoe 6.00 Whitegates Willie 6.30 Liathach 7.00 Grate Deel 7.30 Joint Account 8.00 Jack Robbo 8.30 Swandale Flyer GOING: Good to Soft (Good in places).

Left-hand, undulating course. Easy fences and long run-in on chase course of 500yds.

Course is fin South east of town near junction of A889 and A177. Bus service from Stockton station (Sm) or Durham station (271), ADMISSION: Packbock SS (DAPs 29; Course £2. CAR PARK: (201), ADMRSSION: Packbock 53 (OAPS 59; Course 52. CAR PARK: 52. remainder first.

● LEADING TRAINERS: Nirs M Reveloy 74-254 (281%), J H Johnson 21-174 (21%), G M Mooins 19-104 (153%), J Wade 51-176 (85%), M LEADING JOCKEYS: P Nivan 55-185 (207%), L Wyer 24-117 (205%), G Lee 18-67 (235%), A Dobbin 18-154 (10.4%).

● FAVOURITES: 238-625 (38.2%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Romaidikirk (200), Bowlands Country (viscred, 800). : Titte أسب. \_J Fortune :

6.00 DUDLEY DUKES ANTIQUE FAIR NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 5f 110vds 3F2634 WHITEGATES WILLIE (8) (BF) J H Johnson 6 11 0. 28 4-OPPO MORCAT (18) C Rackits 9-10.9 Mr S Durack (3)
- 13 declared BETTING: 5-2 Dragons Bay, 11-4 Whitegates Willia, 7-2 Galo Force, 81 Kings Minstral, Edistone, 10-1 Cadeacox Praemiere, 12-1 Mullina, 33-1
others

6.30 JOHN WADE GROUP SELLING SKY (CLASS E) £12,000 added 2m 5f 110yds 42/111 CHARITY CRUSADER (PZZ) (CO) Miss M Reveloy 7 12 0 .... 22J-02 THE BOOZING BRIEF (P22) C Parier 5 10 10..... D Parier 9 01004- WHITEGATESPRINCESS (339) (CD) B Elicon 7 10 0. - 11 declared - Mintenum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Polo Pony Set 10to, Twice The Groom Set 7th, Whitegelsephinoses Set 5th. Spring Cell Set 0th, Bent Co Intenut, Cubell Consset Set 6th.

BETTING: 9-4 Listinach, 5-2 Charly Crustades, 5-1 Noir Emprit, 6-1 The Booming Brief, Brave Edwin, 12-1 Polo Pony, 25-1 Twice The Groom, 33-1 others

7.00 GEORGE CARPENTER MEMO-SKY

(CLASS E) £5,000 added 3m 3f 

iette Sci Sth. BETTING: 3-1 Grate Deel, 8-1 Farmey Glan, 13-2 Dark Oak, 7-1 Jinney O'Dea, 8-1 Russian Castle, Heavenly Citizan, 10-1 Tico Gold, 12-1 oth-

7.30 GUY CUNARD HUNTERS SKY added 2m 5f UPSIZZ GREENMOURIT LAD (13) (CD) Mrs S Comforth 10 13 0. -6030P OVERWHELM (8) V Thompson 10 12 10Mr R W Green (7) B -050/2 ANNS DISPLAY (27) N Wison 7 12.7 \_\_\_\_ler N Wison (5)
10-PP ANGTHER ISLAY (11) P Foster 7 12.7 \_\_\_\_ler A Parter (7)
24/PP BALUBRIT (34) Y Thompson 9 27. . . left in Thompson (7)
PP-070 CHILDSWAY (13) S J Robinson 10 12 7 left S J Robinson (7)

21-312 JOINT ACCOUNT (48) Mrs F Needham 6 127. 

- 13 declared -BETTING: 5-4 Hiltonstown Lass, 3-1 Greenmount Lad, 9-2 Anns Display, 8-1 Joint Account, 12-1 Lindon Rus, 20-1 King Ry, Oaklands SRly, 25-

8.00 STANLEY RACING NOVICE SKY added 2m 5f 110yds

03/083 HIGHLAND VIEW (9) J H Johnson 8 ti O ... 

8.30 JOHN W DUNN HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2m 1f 489-P SERNY (314) (D) J.J Culon 9 11 0 L. Wyer 350506 SLEETING (51) J. Macket 5 10 12. E. Husband (3) 052261 KIERCHEM (18) C. Grant 7 10 10 R. Supple 2542- CLOVER GIRL (547) (CD) (BF) B Ellison 7 10 2 .

– 16 declares – Minimum weight: 10st. True hendicep weights: Pricity Fair 9st 13th, Brook House 9st 79.

House 9st 79.

BETTING: 3-1 Klarchen, 4-1 Stusive Star, 11-2 Swandale Flyer, 8-1 Onyouroun, 10-1 Stylish Interval, 12 Melternison, Son Of Spring, 14 others

#### Bangor

HYPERION 5.45 Lady Rebecca 6.15 Absolute Folly 6.45 Current Speech 7.15 Allow 7.45 Finch's Gem 8.15 Key Grip

GOING: Good to Soft (Soft in piscas).

© Left-hand, undustring course; run-in 325yds.

© Left-hand, undustring course; run-in 325yds.

© Course is see SE of Wresham near join of A525 and 85068. Bus from Wresham rail station. ADMISSION: Paddock £10; Course £5 (under-18s tree all enclosures). CAR PARK: Free.

© LEADING TRANSERS: M Pipe 28-88 (\$18%), G Richards 16-81 (198%).

© LEADING TRANSERS: M Pipe 28-88 (\$18%), G Richards 16-81 (198%).

© LEADING JOCKEYS: R Durwoody 22-78 (282%), A P NecCoy 13-51 (255%).

N Williamson 11-44 (25-6). C Lieuwithin 11-59 (19%).

● FAVOURITES: 178-453 (38.4%). BLINKERED PRIST TIME Fair Farm Lad (545), Rive's Book (545).

5.45 J. SCOTT FURNISHERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) 23,500 added 3m 11-10 LADY RESECCA (44) Miss V Williams 6 11 7 ... #01F11 NOW WE KNOW (18) (C) (D) M Sheppard 10 11 6 R Durwoodly

GFOCES BROUBBALLOW (23) Mrs B Wibring 5 11 0 R E Byron B

GFOCES BROUBBALLOW (23) Mrs B Wibring 5 11 0 R E Byron B

GOOD O DAMCING RANGER (23) Mrs S Wibrin 7 11 0 R E Page Byron B

S Wyrme

P SHEEC SOMAREE (NZ) (157) S Brookstaw 6 11 0 R E Calleghon B

GOASO BOARBING SPRING (49) N Herioteron 8 11 0 M A Filographic

GOASO BOARBING SPRING (49) N Herioteron 6 11 0 R Johnson

GROSS SARAS DELIGHT (25) D Netroteron 6 11 0 R Johnson

GO TRIKK OF THE TRADE (20) G Richards 5 11 0 R Harding

GO WESTERM SUN (363) J R Hughes 9 11 0 X Abpairo (3)

FROM PENNYMEE (9) S Exolicitum 7 10 9 X Abpairo (3)

6.15 JONES PECKOVER NOVICE HANDI-CAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added SKY 2m 1f 110yds SOUSH DOCKLANDS COURSER (10) R Philips 6 ft 10.

Pippie PLAY GAMES (18) (D) R Lee 10 ft 7.

SINES FOLLOW DE CALL (25) (CD) D McCain 8 11 4.

FLEP2S ASSOLUTE FOLLY (27) Ms S Grain 6 ft 3.

(D-FP) MSS MYLETTE (79) R Digith 7 ft 3.

6.45 RED CROSS WEEK SELLING HANDLE SKY added 2m 4f

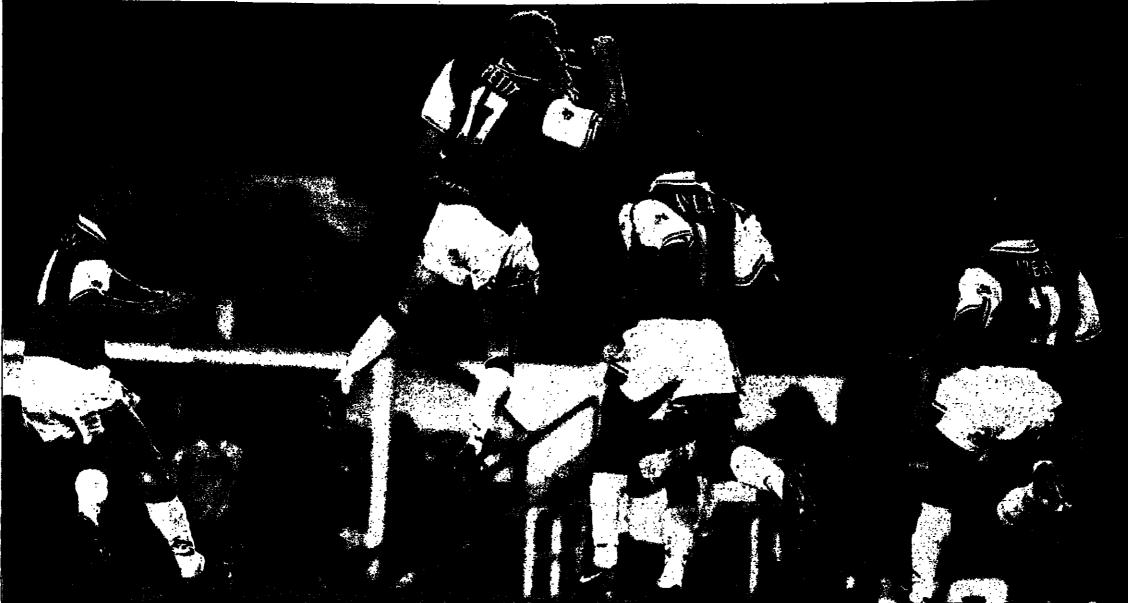
Hardward Mercyce, 1000. Hard Manuscope Program of Control Service Serv

7.15 WYNNSTAY HUNT SUPPORTERS SKY £6,000 added 2m 4f 110yds 

BOILD (17) (D) M Williamson 9 12 4. Mr D Shertock (7) 63(2) LAMDENSTOWN (57) (D) H Merics 10 12 4. Mr D Shertock (7) 63(2) LAMDENSTOWN (57) (D) H Merics 10 12 4. Mr Miss C Thomas (7) F3(1) VARYIGINOV (6) (D) Merk G Firmel 9 12 4. Mr M Filmen (7) 27(7) P. AMERICSE (6) (D) Mr T Filmon 11 2 0. Mr W Filmen (7) 45(2) FINCH'S GEM (12) (D) Mr S Shore 10 12 0. Mr R Berels (7) 45(2) FINCH'S GEM (12) (D) Mr S Shore 10 12 0. Mr R Filmen (7) 67(4) FINCH'S GEM (12) (D) Mr S Shore 10 12 0. Mr R Filmen (7) 67(4) FINCH'S (62) (D) Lorison 9 12 0. Mr R Filmen (7) FINCH'S (77) L Sunders 8 12 0. Mr R Filmen (7) FINCH'S (77) L SUNDERS (18) (D) G Bisson 8 11 9 Mr M Worthington (7) HAVEATEMMANNERS (18) (D) G Bisson 8 11 9 Mr M Worthington (7) 10 declared — - 10 declared -- 10 declared -BETTUNG: 7-4 Kantucky Gold, 3-1 Landenstown, 7-2 Varyidnov, 5-1 Finch's Gets, 16-1 Calierose, 25-1 Orion House, 33-1 others 8.15 LLANDUDNO HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 1f 74FU JOLIVER (15) M Pipe 10 12 0 R. Johnson 3145-0 KINO'S CROSS (10) A.J Wilson 9 11 4 A Thornton Pages Putture King (151) (D) K Balley 11 11 3 N Williamson 2004 M SCRAM (25) R Digits 5 10 3 A P McCoy SEZMAI SKRAM (25) FIDENTS 10 15
DIF-24 RIVER WYE (46) 6 Yactin 6 TO 2
10402 KEY GREP (17) Mrs S Smith 7 TO 11
10402 KEY GREP (17) Mrs S Smith 7 TO 11
10403 RIVERBANK ROBE (13) (CD) W (Cay 7 TO 4
10404 EBSN AL HABEEB (13) (CD) (BF) D McCan 7 TO 3
10403 COUNTRY MINSTRIE. (35) S DOUCH 7 TO 0
14PFROD TANSEED (13) (CD) M Meagher 7 TO 0. Marimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Country Minstrel 9cl 12, Tanséen 9st

added 3m 110yds

7.45 EASTERN DESTINY NOVICE SKY



Red revolution: Arsenal's players celebrate another goal in a season during which their style of play under Arsène Wenger is turning the club into byword for sophistication and charm

Photograph: Allsport

# Suddenly everyone loves Arsenal

season, but this lifelong Arsenal fan has a club is running a serious risk of becoming the most popular in the land. Worse than that, it could even turn into a national institution. One by one, the elements are falling into place. Nick Hornby's Fever Puch provides the historical chronicle, a deep trough of the emotions of an Arsenal fan at which parched newcomers may drink. Then we have the glittering present, a string of performances that has all at once rendered Manchester United, the nearest thing we presently have to a national institution, as dated — and exciting — as last week's stock tiful Game. prices. And then there's Arsène Wenger. But of him more in a moment.

A singularly misguided writer in the Evening Standard recently predicted that, come the Cup final, an orgy of old fashioned Arsenal-hating would burst over the land, and that Newcastle would be every neutral's er still rankles, remains a golden memory. But, favourite. You do not have to be a believer. to know the reverse is true - and not merely as a result of the grace, loquacity and affability of Kenny Dalelish.

IT MAY be placing a curse over a fabulous After decades of his team being called boring, Rupert Cornwell, a life-long Arsenal prediction to make, and it terrifies him. Our suppporter, explains why he is terrified they may become the most popular in the land

> loves. In our most euphoric moments, some word for sophistication and charm. For long of us liken its style to that of the "Total Football" Dutch sides which every uncommitted follower of football vainly prayed would win the World Cups of 1974 and 1978. For Overmars read Rensenbrink, for Bergkamp read Cruyff. No longer is Arsenal just a dreary winning machine. Forced for decades to find virtue in the long ball up the centre and the hoof into the upper deck, to our amazement we find ourselves at the vanguard of the Beau-

In truth, "Boring Arsenal" was always a bit unfair — the 1989 and 1991 Championship sides scored goals by the hatful, and the brief flowering of the Liam Brady/Frank Stapleton team of the late 1970s, cut short by Brady's defection to Juventus which even 18 years latyes, it can't be disputed: by and large we

time pilgrims to London N5, this transformation is seriously disorienting.

For despite the Johnnie-Come-Latelies who always hitch their allegiance to a rolling bandwagon, Arsenal's fan base probably hasn't greatly changed. Yes, football's gentrified and ultra-fashionable, and restaurants are replacing pubs as gathering places for the faithful. Yes, the sport has a rich business following, but then there always was. Residents complain of siege by limo on Saturday afternoons - but some of my first forays to Highbury were inwalnut-panelled Daimlers (which my father would insist on driving with the windows sealed as he puffed on a cigar of Churchillian dimensions). But let the flash Harrys go to in Arsenal history (among them a header in faceted, the blending of the best of British with Chelsea. At heart Arsenal is still the neighthe Manchester United game of April 1, 1978, the best of Europe. Isn't this what Blairism's bourhood team. Newcastle has Tony Blair, that left Pat Jennings frozen as a statue). Or, all about? And, with New Labour's nose for pretty dull, and in the late 50s, mid 60s and the Glory, Glory Hallelujah days had Freddie Bill ShankLEE, Have you heard of the ister (lately of North London moreover), will mid 80s we sometimes bordered on the aw- Ayer. I have called around to check, but the North Bank, 'IghbuREE..." ful. But vilification bred fierce clan loyalty. best anyone can come up with for Arsenal in

And the terrace poetry hasn't improved much either. These days, grace à Arsène, the verses have a more cosmopolitan flavour: "He comes from Seneg-AL, he plays for Arsen-AL," for instance, in honour of Patrick Vieira, these days the North Bank's supreme favourite; or "He's blond, he's quick, he's named after a porno flick," eulogizing Emmanuel Petit, the other French titan of the midfield. The subject matter may be more ambitious, but in terms of scansion not a patch on "Six foot two and eyes of blue, Willie Young is after you," the chant in honour of the lumone or two of the most thunderous own goals

fraction of the star quality radiating from Wenger before the possible repeat of 1998. What is it about these Frenchmen that so bewitch us? What came of our national contempt for the "bottomless superficiality" of the ancient foe from across the Channel? First Eric Cantona, the thinking man's footballer - artist, actor and poet on the side. Now Wenger, mysterious and cooler than Cool Britannia could ever dream of, who turns the post-match press conference into a Cartesian dissection of the footballing universe.

Did I detect an "over zee moon"the other day? Maybe, but the gallic lilt of the studious, unfailingly polite Wenger, occasionally to be found in post-match rumination in a local restaurant, can turn Gaffer-speak into bering Scottish defender of blessed memo- Racine. Small wonder the reporters feel like ry, responsible for the odd mazy dribble and pupils at the feet of the master. So welcome to the new Arsenal, multi-national, multickburn has Jack Straw, and Tottenham in going back even further, "Bertie Mee said to a vote-winner. I can't believe our Prime Minbe supporting Newcastle for long after 16 May. And then there's Arsène. Even after his Thus will cult-status be sealed. Whether that's

Suddenly we have a team that everyone Now, lo and behold, we risk becoming a by- the celebrity supporter stakes is Melvyn Bragg. 1971 double, Bertie Mee never acquired a what I want is quite another matter. **Crowd concerns at** Nationwide climax

> THE Football League has 28,000-capacity stadium as pleaded for sanity and good be-many as 10,000 City fans have haviour from fans at Sunday's acquired tickets.

> Nationwide League climax. the relegation clash between acquired many tickets in the Stoke and Manchester City and promotion-chasing Sunderland's visit to Swindon have prompted the League to beg Hull said: "We are obviously unsupporters not to wreck English football's improved image in the

eyes of the sporting world. The League has reacted following worrying problems emerging from the Stoke game where both sides could be relegated on Sunday - that Manchester City fans have bought up thousands of tickets for areas of the Britannia Stadium normally reserved for home

Stoke believe as many as 3,000 City supporters could be in areas of the ground normally reserved for home fans, although even this estimate could be a conservative one.

It is feared that in the

There are also reports that Fears of crowd problems at Sunderland supporters, have home support areas of the County Ground.

A League spokesman, Chris able to become involved in the ticket arrangements of individual clubs but we are aware of the possible problems at Stoke. We have to rely on the clubs involved to organise their games in the best way possible and ask fans to behave themselves."

Stoke have decided to bring in 200 extra stewards and 250 police officers for a game that is potentially explosive. Manchester City were given 4,800 tickets for one end of the ground and sold their allocation inside two days. But Stoke have been accepting telephone bookings and put tickets for the other three sides of the ground on open sale.

#### Football results

Yesterday

FA CARLING PREMERSIND: Arsenal 1 Derby 0; Chatese 0 Blackoum 1; Coventry 0 Wirnble-don 0; Leicester 0 Newbase 0. NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL (EAGUE First Di-visions Middlesbrough 1 Wolves 1. GM VALDONALL CONFERIENCE: Familiorough 1 Challerhom 2. neit Breingstole 1 Henden 4 jet Cheshant Utd.
UNISOND LEAGUE CUP Finat: Altrincham 2:
Gainsboough 1 jeed jet Chesterfield, Pinst Division: Bradford Park Avenue 1 Congleton C; Great
Harwood O Greata 1; Netherfield 4 Whitely Bay
3; Whitey 1 Stockebridge PS 0.
DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Division:
Forest Green Rovers 3 Mertryn Tydfi 1; Selstoury
0 Rothreet G. Middland Divisions: Bosson 2 Fleddich C; Paper Rampars 2 Elestrons 2; Resunds 4
Evenhant 0; Selfusi Boough 1 Corby 0: Seatharm Divisions: Bestfoy 3 Newport (Swend) 1; DerJord O Chelmstord 1, Yalle 1; Farrstom 3; WMSSTONLEAD KERT LEAGUE Einst Division.

UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First DI-vision: Arundei O Shoreherti () SCREWFIX DRECT LEAGUE Pres Chipperham 4 Chard 1

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE Pirst Ol-vision: Asserton Collegies 3 Nantwich 5. InTERLIPIK EXPRESS MICHAND ALLIANCE: Kings Norton 3 Wednesfield 1. SON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Di tons ( Wicchart 1; Woodbridge 2 Si

Pessones of windmain 1; Woodsmidge 2 Suthury Wanderson 2.

ARROTT INSURANCE NORTHERNI LEAGUE First Division: Durston Federation 3 Perinth 0: James Rocking 1 Coresto 1, Mappeth 0 RTM Newscesse 0; Tow Law 1 Bedington: Review 3 LEAGUE OF WALES: Geammain 3 TNS Lunsantified 1; Corewy 0 Bangor City 2.

PONTINS LEAGUE Premise Privalent League 0 Liverpool 1 (at Meliter Revin): Notting prior Forest 0 Marchester Und 1; Rammer 3 Stoke 0, Finst Division: Otheran 1 Hacklersfield 2; Port Vele 1 Middleshrough 0; Second Division: Perinted Division: Otheran 1 Rochalde 0, Vols 1 Street, Confise 2 Lincoln 7; Shelffeld Und 2 Stockport County 0; Wiestman 3 Rochalde 0, Vols 1 Street, Stoke 0, Tax Division: Charlon 6 Portamount 0; Ipswich 3 Chebsa 0; Southernston 1 Warbidson 0; Washool 10; Vols 1 Street, Stoke 2 Sandon Town 0.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLIES (Block de MINTERNATIONAL) terd 2 Swindon Town 0.
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLIES (Rio de Janeiro): Argentina 1 (Lopez 84) Brazil 0. (Sentingo): Crite 1 (Muñez 90): Utrauna 0.
BELGIAN LEAGUE: Lierse 3 Standard Liége 1, RWO Motenbeck 2 Excelsion Mouscron 1, Antwerp 2 Charlerol 4: Beveren 3 Lokaren C. Anderlecht 2 Club Bruges 4: Sk-Truidon 0 Lommel C. Genk 2 Ghant 1.

TTALIAN CUP Final second leg: Luzic 3 Milan 1 (Luzic ven 3-2 on aggregate) SPANESH CUP Final: Barcelona 1 Mallorco 1 (Act, Barcelona ven 5-4 on penablet).

# Fina to continue De Bruin probe

#### Drugs in sport

FINA, swimming's world governing body, is to press whead with investigations into Ireland's triple Olympic champion, Michelle de Bruin, despite her strong denials that she tampered with a sample.

Fina and the De Bruin camp are awaiting results of the  $\hat{B}$ sample, the second one given by the former Michelle Smith in January. She is accused of having taken advantage of a ... banned procedure, of using a banned substance, and actions which affected the integrity and validity of the urine sample.

The International Olympic Committee has also entered the row, saying a urine sample submitted by De Bruin contained deadly levels of alcohol with "a very strong whisky odour".

The IOC medical commis-

sion chairman, Prince Alexandre de Merode, confirmed yesterday that unnaturally high levels of alcohol had been found in the sample.

The alcohol level was so high that you could not survive with that concentration," he said, adding that it was possible that either it "is not her urine or that it's manipulated urine" and that alcohol could be used to mask the presence of other drugs in a sample. He said two drug testers, a man and a woman, were present for De Bruin's doping control.

Meanwhile a senior European athletics coach gave his support to De Bruin and accused the sport of sour grapes.

David McCreanney, who coaches in Belgium, saw De Bruin train for four months before the Atlanta Games. He said: "Michelle ate, worked and slept training under the guidance of her husband Erik. She would swim all morning, sleep in the afternoon and train again in the evening. She got there through a lot of hard work and structured training."

Meanwhile, it was claimed yesterday that around 70 percent of top-class sportsmen are cheating with drugs. Matthew Yates, a former European 1.500m indoor champion, and Britain's former 400m runner Derek Redmond, said they believed most athletes who appeared in a final at the top level were taking banned substances.

Yates made his claim in a debate about drugs in sport on BBC radio and Redmond added: "I have heard the 70 per cent figure and I wouldn't be surprised. It is going on in the world of athletics."

#### Sturgess puts his career back on road

#### Cycling

**By Robin Nicholl** 

NINE years ago, Colin Sturgess was a world track champion. Today he races in the Travelwise four-day Tour of Lancashire with some catching up to do after studying for a university degree, emigrating to Australia and editing a cycling magazine.

Having put his professional racing career on hold in 1993, Sturgess, a former British road race champion, got back on a bike while covering the world track championships in Perth, Western Australia. Then his South African protégé, David 🏶 George, won an under-23 world time trial bronze in San Sebastian, and Sturgess was fired up for a comeback. After a medalwinning performance in the Australian track championships, Sturgess returned to Britain to re-establish his international ca-

reer at the age of 29. He was due to ride in a . French race but the trip fell through so Sturgess was witched to the 260-mile Tour which opens today on a Peak District circuit, near Oldham.

Another late inclusion is he British road race champion. Jeremy Hunt, whose 10 victories last year in internationally. recognised races put him among the top nine most successful riders of the year.



Brazil Argentina

to defend the World Cup by scor-Rio de Janeiro's Maracana sta-

dium on Wednesday. Brazil's coach, Mario Zanot play to my satisfaction and we must improve for France. Argentina also played poorly, but they had much better rhythm, which is very important."

In the early stages, Argentina seemed better organised, keeping the ball in Brazil's half for the first few minutes. But as the game progressed Brazil picked up steam, with the formidable pairing of Ronaldo and Romario taking on and beating defenders with ease.

Argentina hit back, with Gabriel Batistuta breaking into the penalty area in the 27th minute, but he sliced his shot wide. Minutes later, Nelson Vivas's effort from outside the

Non-League notebook

WHEN the former Stoke City

Peiic, took over as manager of

knew he faced a tough task - but

tomorrow. Leek will have

played six games in eight days.

points to escape relegation.

When the GM Vauxhall

By Rupert Metcalf

not this tough.

goalkeeper, Claudio Taffarel.

inches wide of the post.

Denilson was also close to

a series of the physical confrontations which have characterised matches between these Carlos was fortunate not to concede a penalty when he knocked over Argentina's play-

The home crowd started to get impatient and began chant-



Then Roberto Ayala earned himself a yellow card for foul-CLAUDIO LOPEZ punctured ing Ronaldo, who almost ex-Brazilian morale as they prepare acted revenge with a long-range effort which was off target. ing the only goal in the 84th Lopez went much closer secminute of a prestige friendly at onds later, sending the ball

opening the scoring when he exgallo, conceded: "The team did tended the Argentine keeper German Burgos, who was relieved to see the midfielder's shot drift narrowly wide. The second half began with

maker Ariel Ortega in the area.

The Brazilian full-back had a chance to show off his own dead-hall expertise when Ronaldo was fouled, but the free-kick flew straight into the wall.

area flew straight at Brazil's Fiorentina striker could set ball evaded Argentina's on-

eight days of exertion started

with last Saturday's home defeat

and England full-back, Mike Stevenage on Monday, followed commitments meant that Leek

by another away game at Slough

Leek Town three weeks ago, he on Tuesday. Last night they ers, Neil Ellis and Dean Trott,

tonight Morecambe are the vis-

itors to Harrison Park. Tomor-

Conference season concludes row the Staffordshire side's have been exacerbated by two

exhausted players will have to

drag themselves back down to

"I read about Arsenal find-

These are not meaningless the Home Counties again for

matches, either, for they need the final fixture, at Hayes.



two great rivals, and Roberto Argentina's Roberto Ayala keeps a tight rein on Ronaldo (right), who was powerless to stop Brazil losing Wednesday's friendly to their traditional rivals Photograph: Reuters

so too because Edmundo soon

went on for Denilson. Argentina were looking more dangerous and, after Ze Elias had fired a long-range effort straight into Burgos's arms, on the counter-attack Juan Veron's strike bounced out of ing "Edmundo" - as if the Taffarel's grasp and the loose

pathetic," Pejic said. "And

they're full-time pros - all our

had to do without two key play-

Pejic's selection problems

bad injuries: against a physical

Welling side last weekend John

Diskin suffered a broken leg and

Dale Hawtin a fractured elbow.

Monday and Tuesday.

world champions off the book. Pride demanded a home win and Ronaldo tried to rescue Brazil with an impressive dribble which took him past

Burgos, but the Inter striker could not take the ball with him. Lopez then took over, setting his sights with a shot straight at Taffarel before he cut in from

things straight. Zagallo thought rushing attackers to let the wing and beat the veteran keeper with only six minutes left. Romario and Ronaldo both created openings in the closing moments, but Argentina held on for a morale-boosting victory.

Brazil: Taffarei, Cetu, Junior Basano (Cleber, 64), Aktair, Roberto Carlos, Cesar Sampalo, Ze Eliez, Rei (Leonardo, 67), Denlison (Ed-

# Argentina: Burgos, Vives, Sersini, Ayala, Zenetti, Almeyda, Smeone, Veron. Oriega (Delgado, 75), Lopez (Piñeda, 88), Betistuta.

## Pejic's weary men endure six-match marathon Caused by four games being ing it tough with five games in Slough on Tuesday Pejic had to

seen play on the substitutes' beach. On Wednesday he spent this week's only spare evening scouting for new recruits. "This wasn't really what I was expecting," a weary Pejic said.

Emley hit the headlines with their brave display at West Ham in the FA Cup in January, but they were in the news for the wrong reasons after their 3-0 win over Parkgate in the Sheffield Senior Cup final at The situation is so bad that at Hillsborough on Tuesday.

After Dean Calcutt had been put three players he had never sent off for throwing the ball at an opponent following the final whistle, another Emley player, Simon Jones, who had been substituted, confronted the referee. He was restrained by a teammate, Neil Lacey (a policeman), who became involved in

a fight with Jones. Jan Banks, Emley's captain, refused to collect the trophy in disgust at what was happening, and the evening ended with Jones - sent off three times and booked 13 times this season being sacked by the club.

لكذا من ألاصل

postponed during April, Leek's 17 days, and I wasn't very sym-

by Welling. Then it was off to lads are part-timers." Work

were at home to Yeovil, while for the two away games on

TOUR OF LANCASHIRE: Today: Lydgae-Uppermit circuit, Oldram, 595 miles (1251 10pm). Tomorrow: Botton-Holcombe, 735 miles (10,30am); Standay: Cockertam three treats, Lancaster II miles (9,0am); Hyndburt circuit race (Apprington town central), 286 miles (3,30pm); Miles (10,0am); Corp. cuit, Presson, 825 miles (10,0am); Corp.

Rugby Union

By Chris Hewett

VERNON PUGH and Rob Fisher, two of the four International Rugby Board big wheels who earlier this week cast England's leading Pre- ball Union, whose four-man miership clubs into temporary exile, come from legal backgrounds. All the more peculiar, then, that they should have acted outside the strict terms

and conditions of their own organisation's constitution.

Pugh, a barrister and Crown Court recorder as well as the current chairman of the IRB, was instrumental in issuing the threat of impending disciplinary action against the Rugby Footnegotiating panel has completed peace talks with represennatives of English First Division Rugby, the clubs' umbrella or-

of the more draconian board regulations in an application to the European Commission, which will be heard in October.

Fisher, a New Zealand lawyer, and two fellow executive members. Tom Kiernan of Ireland and Dick McGruther of Australia, were also involved in the ad hoc discussion that resulted in Tuesday's provocative

nent decision to challenge some IRB's member unions, from Andorra to Zimbabwe, had been told to suspend playing contact with the EFDR clubs with immediate effect.

Yet the board's own constitution clearly states under regulation three (pithily subtitled "Compliance with regulations and procedures in respect of breaches") that the IRB must give a union "proper opportu-

alarmed by the clubs' imperti- announced that all 82 of the the council" before disciplining the union's clubs. The RFU will not get that opportunity until 18 May, when it attends a special meeting in Dublin.

Senior club activists suspect years. Pugh and company of sabre rattling in an effort to undermine the RFU-EFDR negotiations, the fruits of which will be discussed by the union's management board next week.

If the agreement is ratified, name invitation side from every

triguing position of throwing the book at Twickenham officials for their role in ending an internal conflict that has ravaged English rugby for more than two

It was by no means clear yesterday whether the action taken against the EFDR clubs would affect the Sanyo Cup showpiece, which is scheduled for 23 May and involves a big-

ing on the winners of the Allied Dunbar Premiership.

Neither was there an official line on where the ban might leave this summer's southern hemisphere tours. England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales are all on the road over the next two months and will rely on players from the EFDR clubs.

It was left to Gareth Davies, the chief executive of a Cardiff club in deep dispute with the

Pugh has been angered and statement. The four men nity to make representations to the IRB will find itself in the in-corner of the rugby world tak- Welsh Rugby Union, to lead the attack on the IRB initiative vesterday. "Why pick on England?" he asked "We should"; look a bit nearer home. Professional rugby in Wales is a complete disaster, a total sham-

> "England's problems are 🚾 more complex than ours, but look at what they've achieved already. As an outsider, I would say that England and the clubs are doing all right."

# Clarke revels in tough new role

ON HIS way for lunch this week, Phil Clarke spots a street trader selling Wigan memorabilia and moves across in covas a back-row forward.

of questions, polite but firm. Is this official merchandise? Does he have a licence to sell it?

The evasive skills are good. It depends what you mean by "official" or by "licence," guv; and the name Wigan Warriors is not a registered trade-mark.

Lunch will have to wait for a phone call to the club, telling them that, if it isn't registered, they must set about making it so right away. Life as a chief executive is a lot more complex than life as a player.

The last time Wigan played at Wembley, three years ago, Clarke was at loose forward for the last of his five winners' medals. Although he is still not 27, he will be sitting tomorrow with the old men behind the Royal Box, as an ex-player - one whose career was ended prematurely by a broken neck - and the brightest and busiest young administrator in the game.

It would be a difficult and painful transition for most people, but not, Clarke insists, for him. "I'm not a frustrated player any more. I don't want to run down the role of players, but I'm beyond that stage now. What I'm doing now represents my future."

When he does look back, he finds Cup finals do not really rank among the most vivid mempries of his time with the club.

"I'm hoping to enjoy Wembley more this time. In all my time at Wigan, there are six games or so that really stand out and those were the ones we weren't supposed to win, like the World Club Championship in Brisbane. I got a special feeling playing for Great Britain when we beat Australia at Wembley, but in Cup finals we were always expected to win, so the main feeling was being anx-

ious about losing," he said. "I used to see players punching the air when we'd won and wonder what they were doing

The back-row forward turned Wigan chief executive tells Dave Hadfield how he is making er defence much as he used to the Challenge Cup finalists more business-like

always knew we should win."

If that sense of everything coming too easily was what drove Clarke to leave for the Sydney City Roosters, then he is finding all the challenges he needs in his new role at his old club.

The weeks since he took the job have been made up of long working days, raising standards that had slumped alarmingly right across the club. He never misses an Alliance or Academy game - "Because I might have to decide whether to keep them or release them," he said.

To those young players, he is the boss, although one with a dis-



Photographs: Simon Wilkinson

many of the first team squad. he is a contemporary and friend who must now keep his distance.

"I don't spend much time hanging around the changing rooms. That's not my place any more. And you don't have many friends in management; it's a lonely job."

Lonely and fraught with thorny problems. Had the timing and finance fallen differently. for instance, one of his first duties would have been to tell his closest mate from his playing days, Denis Betts, that the club could not afford to pay him.

.There are other unpalatable tidings he has had to con-

He tackles him with a couple that for. They were games we vey. Various functionaries have been told that, if Wigan win tomorrow, they must not join the team for the post-match pictures. When Clarke and his team-mates won in 1995, they were outnumbered on the photos by men in blazers; it rankled

then, so be will not allow it now. For an archetypal Mr Nice Guy, Clarke does not shy away from confrontation. Dodgy street vendors aside, he has ruffled feathers by telling the club's apprentices that they should have jobs and college courses on their timetables and not expect to be full-time professionals from their teens onward. "They were banging around the club doing nothing. They aren't all going to make it, so telling them to have something else in their lives is being cruel to be kind," he said.

There have also been differences of opinion with some with a lot more clout at the club and arguments that make it just as well that he seems to have the unstinting support of Wigan's bankroller, Dave Whelan.

Clarke also caused alarm when he was quoted as saying that Wigan might one day be Clarke in action for Wigan -- playing rugby union. "What I meant there was that a business has to look at all options," he tinguished playing record. To said. "McDonald's were asked what they will do in the next century, if no one wants burgers and fries. They said that they will sell much tradition and feeling in-

volved and our game's so good." quandary. Clarke and the staff at Wigan are working hard to make the club the dominant force in the game again. But if they become too dominant it makes the sport a less viable proposition. It is something else to pon-

der from the posh seats at Wennstaying out of the pictures.



# Sponsors provide timely lift

THE Challenge Cup's sponsors yesterday showed confidence in the competition's future by expeople what they do want. But tending their backing into the sport isn't like selling fries. It's next millennium. Now the hope not just a business; there's so is that the game's supporters will rally round tomorrow to prevent Wembley being embarrassing-

Therein lies something of a ly empty for this year's final. Silk Cut, who have sponsored the Cup for 14 years, have added another two years to their current deal, which is due to end after next season's final.

In 2001, their support will amount to the sport's first £1m sponsorship for a season and is bley. And, afterwards, he will be a valuable vote of confidence on the eve of what could be

Wembley's worst-attended final

progress on the field, have not 14,000.

good walk-up attendance on the John Lang, is expected to join day, the gate is unlikely to top 65,000, which would make it the smallest since 54,730 watched Wakefield Trinity play this season's hot favourites, Wigan, in

few expect the match to be an evenly-balanced contest, with the Eagles given little or no chance of victory.

Castleford are to hold talks aimed at keeping their coach, Stuart Raper, with them beyond the expiry of his contract at the end of this season. Raper, who steered Cas

away from relegation last season, has been linked with his old club, Cronulla, whose coach, Sydney City next year.

The French government has agreed to set up an inquiry into claims by the new pressure group, XIII-Actif, that Rugby League's assets were stolen by the Vichy regime.

The group is campaigning for the restitution of funds that were confiscated during World War II.

Cricket scoreboard

Benson and Hedges Cup

THE POSTER'S OVAL: Surrey won by say-

A J Wright c A J Hollicatic b Bertlamin ...
R I Dawson b B C Hollicate b Bertlamin ...
M W Alleyne not out ...
TH C Hancock et b Selisbury ...
MCJ Ball c A J Hollicake b B C Hollicake

7-39.7 Did not bat: A M Smith, "C A Walsh. . Bowling: Bicknell 9-1-39-0; Benjamin 10-3-54-2: B C Hollicake 9-0-62-3; Butcher 8-1-30-1; A J Hollicake 6-0-21-0; Salisbury 10-0-54-1

Surrey v Gloucestershire

Surrey wort toss

Extras (ib6, w8) ....

# Brown and Russell state their case

Cricket

By Mark Baldwin at The Oval

Gloucestershire 266-7

Surrey 270-3 Surrey win by seven wickets

THE England chairman of selectors, David Graveney, yesterday saw the best of both Alistair Brown and Jack Russell - two men desperate after their winter experiences to prove they should not be forgotten.

One-day maestro Brown finished on the winning side in the Benson and Hedges Cup tie, largely thanks to his own 74 from just 68 balls.

Wicketkeeper Russell had earlier made 83 in Gloucestershire's 266 for 7, a challenging total made to look almost ridiculously puny - even in gloomy, chilly conditions.

Brown was the only member of England's triumphant team at Sharjah last December to be dropped for the one-day series in the West Indies which concluded the unhappy winter tour.

Russell, after a wretched Test tour of the Caribbean with both bat and gloves, has spent : the last fortnight reading about how Graveney's panel intend to restore Stewart as England's full-time wicketkeeper.

Today he was promoted by his county to three in an attempt to disrupt the line of Surrey's

new ball attack. Russell, squirting and swatting in his idiosyncratic style. looked back to his best as he put on 96 with the stylish Rob Cunliffe and then spiritedly stayed to fulfil the anchor role in a wellpaced 129-ball effort.

Gloucestershire plundered 90 runs from their last 10 overs. but in reply the intimidating opening partnership of Brown and Alec Stewart set off at a rate of seven runs an over.

Brown thrashed three sixes off Jon Lewis and five fours to open his case for inclusion in the Texaco Trophy squad to face South Africa. When he departed at 152, Graham Thorpe saw Surrey almost across the finishing line with a brilliant 85 off

# Somerset survive

By Derrick Whyte

at Taunton

British Universities 127-6 Somerset B0-8

SOMERSET survived an as-British Universities by two wickets in the Benson and Hedges Cup here yesterday. A wet outfield delayed the start until 3.45pm when the students, put in to bat, went on to make 127 for 6 in their 20 overs.

After opener Simon Ecclestone was run out for a duck, Somerset appeared to be cruising to victory as Mike Burns and Graham Rose shared a second wicket stand of 98 runs in 11 overs. But the scene changed dramatically when seven wickets numbled for 21 runs, six of them shared by leg spinner Greg Loveridge and medium pacer Michael Davies.

Somerset almost became 122 for 9, but James Lawrence

Dict not bet: B C Holliceke, N Shahid, J D Retclitie, I D K Sellebury, M P Bicknet, J E

Benjamin. Bowling: Lewis 9-0-69-0; Smith 10-0-49-1; Walsh 93-0-55-0; Ball 10-0-46-1; Alleyne 7-

D-39-0; Hencock 2-0-7-1 Umptret: H D Bird and A G T Whitehead.

Somerset v British Univ

BRITISH UNIVERSE

A Singh b Caddick

G Loverloge c Harden b Caddick

M Chitton not out

Desmont b Trescothick

Trescothick

Total (for 5, 20 overs) \_\_\_\_\_ Felt: 1-14, 2-24, 3-71, 4-83, 5-98, 6-108.

Old not bat: 8 Hutern, M Davies, J Lewrence Bowling: Rose 4-0-28-0; Caddick 4-0-25-2 Trescotrick 4-0-20-2; Reeve 4-0-21-0; Burns 2-0-15-1; Parsons 2-0-15-0.

M Burns o Loverage
S C Ecolestone run out
G D Rose b Loveridge
H J Turner o Pyennont b Loveridge
B J Harden b Davies
P D Bowler low b Martin-Jenkins
K A Pursons at Railey b Davies
M E Trescothick at Balley b Devies

†T Bailey run out ..

Burns b Loveridge

dropped a difficult caught and bowled chance offered by Adrian Pierson. In the end, Pierson and Somerset coach Dermot Reeve, in his comeback game after injury, guided Somerset home with one over remaining.

Burns took the Gold Award tonishing collapse to beat the for his 42-ball innings of 55, which included seven fours and

An unbeaten 46 by Mark Chilton had earlier led the Universities to a respectable total. Sussex's James Pvemont, the schoolboy cricketer of the year in 1996, weighed in with 25 before Marcus Trescothick yorked him with a slower delivery.

Trescothick also had Will House caught behind as he finished as Somerset's most successful bowler with 2 for 20 in his four overs. England paceman Andrew Caddick could also be satisfied with his 2 for 25, as he accounted for Universities' captain Anurag Singh and Loveridge who played one Test for New Zealand two years ago.

Fail: 1-0, 2-98, 3-98, 4-100, 5-100, 6-113, 7-

Bowling: Martin-Jenkins 4-0-20-1; Leather 2-0-16-0; Leavence 3-0-35-0; Chilton 1-0-9-0; Loveridge 4-1-28-3; Davies 5-1-16-3

Urankes: B Dudiestone and D R Shepherd.

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (Second

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (Second day of three): Oxtack Surray 147 (S Randel 5-18) and 68 for 2; Nottinghamshire 256 (G F Archer 50, AJ Tudor 4-51), Eastbouries Sussex 306 and 96 for 2 (M T E Petre 50hot; Derbyshire 251 (B L Spendiove 102, G M Roberts 78, Seffront Walder: Kart 74 (FWT Key 68, D G Wisson 4-23); Essex 376 for 8 (A C Richards XI, IN Flanagan 80). (Thirdday of four): Knowie and Dorridge: Warwickshire 313 (M J Powell 15, M Piggott 4-54) and 134 for 4; Hampishire 334 (D A Kenway 83).

BENSON & HEDGES CUP (One-day, 11.0) The Perks: British Universities v Hempshire Dublin: Ireland v Glamorgan. Leloaster: Leloastershire v Lancashire Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Minor Counties. Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Northamstonalire. Worcester: Worcestershire v Derbyshire.

AON TROPHY (One-day, 11.0) Bristol: Gloucestershire y Somerset

D A Reeve not out ... A R K Pierson not ou

Total ffor B. 19 ove

Did not bat; A R Caddick.

Starting today

#### Sporting digest Rasebali

BASSELGAN LEAGUE: Boston 8 Ansheim 4; Teras 4 Dehoit 1; Kansas City 7 Toronto 2: Delviand in Ceveland 4; New York Yankone 8 Seather 5: Chicago White Sox 16 Bathmore 7; Minnesote 2 Tampa Bay 0. NATIONAL LEAGUE: Cincinnal 1 Philadelphia 0; 31 Louis 13 Montreal 7; Houston 8 New York

Basketball NJA FLAVOFTS First round (all series best of five): Eastern Conference: Chicago Tis New Jersey 101 (Chicago win Saries 3-0). Western Conference: Sari Antonio 99 Properis 90 (Sari Antonio win Saries 3-1): Houston 89 Utan 85 (Houston Itald Saries 2-1).

Michael Atherton will make a high pro-file return to captaincy when he leads an MCC side against a Rest of the World XI in the Diana, Princess of Wales, Memorial match at Lord's this agreement Atherton will lear a side sersummer. Atherton will lead a side ex-

pected to include the Australian spinner Share Warns for the 50-over match on Saturday 18 July. on Saturday is stay.

Malaysia plans to stage a four-nation.

Malaysia plans to stage a four-nation.

Tournament before the commontournament cerore the Common-wealth Games in September, the Malaysian Cricket Association an-managed yesterday. The MCA presi-cent, innan Tuenku Je afer, said the tournament was likely to be held in July to coincide with the World Super 8 tour-

## TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of cars set on fire by Panathinaikos football fans after their team suffered a surprise 1-0 defeat in the Greek Cup final to their local rivals," Panionios, on Wednesday. Twenty-six shops were also set on fire after the match, held at the Karaiskaki stadium in Piraeus, which did not finish until around midnight

nament to test the competition venues and tournament officials. "By that time, all eight venues for the Commonwealth Games should be reedy," he said.

Cycling
GRO DEL TRENTINO RACE Fourth stage
(168 km, Torri del Benaco to Rive del Garde, It): 1 P Richard (Swit) 3'r 48min 22ac;
2 O Kamerzind (Swit) 3'r Fernin (1) both
same time; 4 F Gougot (Fr); 5 M Shoni (It)
both + Meac; 6 M Marzoni (It): 7 N Kinshars
(Lih): 8 M Piccoli (It): 9 D Clavero (Sp); 10
F Profeti (It) all +22aec: Fined Overall Standinge: 1 Sevolutel (It): 7'rir 29min 45aec; 2
D Frico (It): 4-24aec; 3'F Cesagranda (It) +25;
4 M Paritani (It) +27; 5 Clavero (Sp): 43;
6 W Belt (It): 7 A Sharer (Ics): both s/x 8 E
Zens (It): + 1min Stace; 9 G Guerrol (It): +29;
10 Richard (Swit): +222.

Football Processi
Robert Molenear will miss Leeds' last two matches of the season apainst Manchester United and Wimbledon after injuring a medial knee ligament in a reserve game on Wednesday. The Dutch defender was carried off after a first-half coffsion with Liverpools.

The Football Association chairman Keith Wiseman yesterdy feiled to be elect-ed to Usfa's six-man executive committee at its 24th Ordinary Congress in Dublin. Wisemen – one of eight new candidates standing against the six executive committee members seeking re-election for another four-year term – polled just 16 votes from the 51-members' associations. The Ueta president Lennart Johansson was re-elected unopposed to another four-year term. Johansson, however, may only serve until 8 June, when he stands as a candidate to succeed João Havelange as president of Pita. Middlesbroughs First Division decider against Oxford United at the Riverside Stadium on Sunday will be screened live on Sky Sports. The game, which starts at 1:30pm, is a sell-out.

Less then an hour's play was possi-Less than an nours pay was possible at Castalconturbia on the first day of the Italian Open yesterday, with only 56 players managing to tee off due to heavy rain. Sam fortance has withdrawn from the tournament because of a past or heavy rains and the same of of a neck problem Torrance, twice a winner of the Italian title in 1987 and 1995, first hurt his neck while practising on Tuesday alternoon. Englands Andrew Beal took the Scot's place in the draw, playing with the Italian Costantino Rocca and Australia's

MACAO OPEN Leading first round scores 69 L Wen-teh (Tai), S Ode (Japan), E Rus-tand (US), B Rygare (Swe), 70 H Yushu (Tai),

N Van Rerseburg (SA), A Atwel (India), A Percey (Aus), 71 T Ohyama (Japan), L Wen-terg (Baw), T Wristchere (Thei), C Jun (Chin), C Yuan-chi (Baiw), A Singh (India), 72 N Fel-do (GB), 73 V Singh (Fili). ice hockey

NHL Play-offs first round: Eastern con-ference: Buffelo 4 Philadelphia 1 (Buffelo lead best-of-seven series 3-1); Philadelphia Montreel 3 (series sed 2-2). Western Con-ference: St. Lauis 2 Los Angeles 1 (St. Lauis win series 4-0). Rugby League

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULT: Second Di-vision: Branley 14 Lancester Lynx 19. Rugby Union

The Leicester winger Craig Joiner has been called into the Scottand squad for this summer's tour to Fill and Aus-tralia. He will replace Kanny Logan of trails. He will replace Kenny Logan of Waspa, who has tailed a fitness test on his injured shoulder. Logan is suffering from ligament damage and is unlikely to play again this season, Johnson to the season at the Leicester side in this, his second season at Wednesday in a 17-13 defeat by Waspa. The Scotland squad leeves on 18 May for the eight-match tour, inon 18 May for the eight-match tour, in-cluding a one-off Test in Fiji. The former Welsh Rupby Union president Ken Gwilym has died aged 83. He was the president in the 1984-85

eson and served as a WRU District A recresentative for 24 years. The England forwards coach John Mitchell was among the try scorers as an invitation XV beat Swansea 57-51 on Wednesday in British Lion Tony Clement's testimonial metch. WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Allied Dumber Premiefiship One: Hartequins 26 Serecens 28; Wasps 17 Leicester 13. Ten-nents Premiership Division 28: Preston

Snooker EMBASSY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (The Cronible, Sheffield): (Wednesday's late re-sults) R O'Sullivan (Eng) bt J White (Eng) 15-7; M Williams (Wel) bt P Ebdon (Eng)

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Ellie League: King's Lynn 47 Coventry 43. Hon-da Challenge: Hull 45 Peterbrough 45.

Speedway

WISPA WORLD WOMEN'S RANKINGS: WISPA WORLD WOMEN'S RANKONGS: 1 5 Fiz-Genid (Aus) 2 M Marin (Aus) 3 S Whight (GB) 4 C Jackman (GB) 5 S Schone (Ge) 6 C Overis (Aus) 7 S Homer (GB) 8 Living (Aus) 9 L Joyce (NZ) 10 J Marin (GB) 11 F Geavis (GB) 12 L Charman (GB) 13 C Nitch (SA) 14 P Beams (NZ) 15 N Grainger (SA) 15 R Cooper (Aus) 17 R Macrae (GB) 15 R Grintem (Aus) 19 J Tran-Red (GB) 20 T Wholes (Aus)

Swimming

FINA, the sports world ruling body, i to stick by its decision to bring back semi-finals for the 2000 Sydney Olympics, despite opposition from Australia. The Australian Swirming president, Terry Gathercola, said Australia planned to lobby other countries to Table tennis

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS (Eindhoven) Men's singles first round: C Presn (Eng) bt Juzobsic (Cros); A Peny (Eng) bt R Jerkhas (Weit) Women's Singles first round: L Je (Neth) bt A Holt (Eng); L Lomiss (Eng) bt A Pezer (Bos). Men's doubles first round: D Monnessin & E Varin (P) bt C Presn & A Penry (Eng); Signistoric & G Stater (Social) bt B Voung & Tyong (Eng). Mitted Doubles first round: K Lengreror & P Fichinger (Aut) bt C Presn & A Holt (Eng). Tennis

ATAT MEN'S CHALLENGE (Atlanta, Georgia) Singles second round: S Campbell (US) br. J-M Gembill (US) 8-2 7-6; R Delgado (Par) br. J-van Herck (Bel) 6-3 6-1; A Calastrava (Sp) bt D van Scheppingen (Nath) 4-6 6-1 8-2; BANY MEN'S OPEN (Munich) Singles, esc

BBMW MEN'S O'PEN (filturich) Singles, excond round: J Bjorlomen (Swe) bt C Van Garsse (Bel) 6-4 6-0 rethed; T Enqvist (Swe) bt M Rosset (Swe) bt M Rosset (Swe) bt M Rosset (Swe) bt M Rosset (IS) bt R Schuliter (Ger) 6-1 6-4; O Gross (Ger) bt P Instz (Sp) 6-1 6-0 Gross (Ger) bt P Instz (Sp) 6-1 6-0 Gross (Ger) bt P Instz (Sp) 6-1 6-0 Grosset (Ger) bt MEN'S O'PEN (Prague) Singles, second round: S Dosedei (Ger Rep) bt (F P Kords (Ger Rep) 6-3 6-2; N Laborito (Er) bt M Sinner (Ger) 6-2 6-0; F Vicerte (Sp) bt R Furlar (fi) 4-8 6-1 6-4; J Diaz (Sp) bt G Schaller (Aut) 4-6 6-1 6-4
WTA HAUPELING O'PEN Singles, second

Schales (Aut) 4-6-5-1 5-4
WTA HAMBURG OPEN Singles, second round: A Senchez (Sp) in H Negyora (Stovald) 6-4 6-4; J Caprien (US) in S Nooriender (Neth) 6-3 6-2; J Ahn (Ger) in A Fusei (Fi) 6-2 6-4; V Rueno-Pascual (Sp) in E Lidrovisava (Rus) 6-0 6-4; P Schnyder (Swit) in A-G Sidoz (Fr) 3-8 6-3 6-4

Lichovisana (Rus) 6-0 6-4; P Schryder (Swit) bt A-G Sidot (Fr) 3-8 6-3 6-4
WTA CROATIAN OPEN (Bal, Cros) Singles, second round: S Table (Cros) bt T Kitzan (Sloven) 6-2 6-2; J Kruger (SA) bt A Mauresmo (Fr) 6-4 8-0; R Sandu (Rom) bt P Suerez (Arg) 6-2 6-6; S Cacchin (It) bt M-J Fernandae (US) 5-2 retired: C Morenu (US) bt Y Yoshida (Lapan) 8-2 6-4.
FUTURES TOURNAMENT (Madnesday) (Hafferd) Men's singles, first round: L Hewitt (Aus) bt D Roberts (SA) 6-1 8-1; I Neumuler (Aus) bt D Roberts (SA) 6-1 8-1; I Neumuler (Aus) bt D Roberts (SA) 6-1 8-1; I Neumuler (Aus) bt D Roberts (SA) 6-1 8-1; I Neumuler (Aus) bt D Roberts (SA) 6-1 8-1; I Neumuler (Aus) bt D Roberts (SA) 6-6-6; J Davidson (CB) bt A Forthaine (Fr) 6-2 6-1; S heabuch (Japan) bt G Carraz (Fr) 6-2 1-0 rat; J Bower (SA) bt R Riberto (Bra) 7-6-60; M Lee (GB) bt I States (GB) 6-3 6-2; M Pastura (Arg) bt N Gould (GB) 6-2 6-3; J Potron (Fr) bt L Kirschner (Get) 3-6 6-3.

R M Inormac (Soven) bt D Sherwood (GB) 7-6-6-6-4; J Pequery (Fr) bt A Parmar (GB) 7-6-6-6-4; J Pequery (Fr) bt A Parmar (GB) 6-6-6-4; J N Timford (Swe) bt J Dalgado (GB) 6-6-6-4; J Patra (Swe) bt J Dalgado (GB) 6-6-6-4; J Timford (Swe) bt J Dalgado (GB) 6-6-6-4; J Timford (Swe) bt J Dalgado (GB) 6-17-6.

for over 50 years. Sheffield Eagles, for all their

built up their support correspondingly and have returned half of their ticket allocation of That means, even with a

Part of the problem is that

#### Today's fixtures Footbali

7.30 unless state GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE Lask v Morecambe (7.45) \_\_\_\_ Lack v Morecambe (7.45)

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Midland Division:
Redditch v Racing Club Warwick.
JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Diwision: Warboys v Lowestoff (7.45). NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE Finst Division: Blackpool Rovers v Rossendale. AVON DISURANCE COMBINATION First Di-vision: Portemouth v Oxford Utd (20); Charl-

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP Final first leg: Blackburn Rovers v Everton (735). HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE OF IRELAND Pressier Division: Dundelk v Shel-IRELAND Presider Division: Duncielk v Shel-bourne (745); Stemfock Rovers v Cork City (745); Kilkenny City v St Patricke Athletic (745)

Speedway 7.30 uniese steted ELITE LEAGUE: Belle Vue v Poole; Oxford v Esstourne (745).
PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: Arena Essax v Peterborush (80): Edinburgh v Stoka.
PREMIER LEAGUE TEAM CHAMPION-SHIP: Isle of Wight v Exster v Newport v Reading.

Other sports BADMINTON: British Grand Stern for Cardle). SNOOKER: Embassy World Championship (at Crucible Theatre, Sheffield). Racing results

2.00: 1. HALMANEPROR (T Cuim)
11-4; 2. Befar's Lagacy 20-1; 3. The
Frisky Parmer 11-2; 11 ran. 5-2 fev Lady
Carlyon Sri-Ind, 11/4, (G McCourt, Warlage).
Tota: 5280; 5200, 5200, 5200, 5200
CSF: 557.42 Trio: 5182-10.
2.90: 1. ALTRUMN COVER (T Cuim) 2-1;
2. Rich in Love 5-2; 3. Perficies 10-1 4 fan.
18-8 tay Saffron Rose (4th). 514-14, 4. (P
Hedge; (Tichestay). Tota: 5280. DF; 5300.
CSF: 5380.
3.00: 1. ADMIRALS SECRET (J Reid)
10-1; 2. Hying Colours (0-1; 3. Danegold
11-14 & Rarad Langerd 10-1 18 fan. 5-1 h

BRIGHTON

2.00: 1. HALMANERROR (T Quinn)

10-1; 2. Flying Colours (1-1; 3. Danegold 11-1; 4, Royal Legend 10-1 18 ren. 5-1 it fav Behind The Scenes, Culei Arch. 9, 11/4, nd. (C. Wed, Newmerke), Totas 1989; 53-5, 52-80, 52-10, 52-80, 10-10, 52-40, S.30: 1. ZOMARADAH (R French) 5-6 fav; 2. Arcevis 3-1; 3. Beneventus 6-1.15 rst. 2. 5. (. Cumari, Newtorloof, Totac \$160; \$130, \$160, \$200 DF: \$270, \$35°; \$356 Tick \$530, NF; Dara Kay 4.00: 1 dead heaf, DANCING LAWYER () Supported \$24; IMSWEI I. IR Britished 4.00: 1 dead heat, DANCING LAWYER (D Sweeney) 12-1; INKWELL (R Brishnd) 12-1; INKWELL (R Brishnd) 12-1; 2. Dendy Regent 5-2 for, 14 nin. Dead int, 4 (K Burke, Wartsge, G L Moore, Brighton), Tota: Dending Lawyer 25-50, Inkwel 52-20; Dending Lawyer 25-40, Inkwel 52-27, Inkwel, Dancing Lawyer, Inkwel 55-47, Inkwel, Dancing Lawyer 55-47, Inkwel, Dancing Lawyer 55-47, Inkwel, Dancing Lawyer, Dancy Regent 522-55, Inkwel, Dancing Lawyer, Dancy Regent 522-55, Inkwel, Dancing Lawyer, Dancy Regent 522-55, Inkwel, Dancing Lawyer, Dancy Regent 522-55.

4.30: 1. JUSTINIANUS (G Bardwall) 14-1; 2. Divine Miss-P 5-1: 3. The Fugathe 2-1 fex. 10 ran. 14.2 (J. Bridge, Liphool), Tota: 2340; 2240; 5180, 1770. DF. 58490. CSF: 58478. Tricast: 578342. Tric. 55320. 5,00: 1. MELLORS (A Daly) 7-1: 2. Missidn Halghis 25-1: 3. With A Will 6-1: 14 ran. 11-4 few Carlton 5thil; 2. (M. Heston-Bis, Wroughton). Tota: CH70; 6420. C540. 2190, DF: 234880. CSF: 27401. Theast Classis: Tric. rat wort. Juckpote Not won (pool of 5773145 carried forward to Newmented today). Placepot: £9070. Greadpot: £9450. Place 6: £4825. ne Mas-P 5-1: 3. The Fugetive 2-1

REDCAR 2.10; 1. ANGIE BABY (5 Majoney) 5-1; 2. Bob's Buster 25-1; 3. Gypey Music 10-1, 15 ran. 5-2 fav Dispoi Predictort. 114, 114, Ul Berry. Cockentamily Total 8550; 5:190, 5:500, 5:360. DF; 2:5990. CSF; 2:5985. Trio; 2:7920 (part 2.40: 1. ARDLEIGH CHARMER (J Golobed)

2.0t. 1. ARDLEIGH CHARMER (J Golobed)
4-1 ji far, 2. The Munro's 11-1; 3. Happy Winndezer 10-1 15 zm. 4-1 ji jab Prince Nicholas,
11-1/4. (C Duyer, Newmerlan). Tota: 5530; 5210,
5270, 5250. DP: COTATO CSP: P6635, Tricast:
536053. The: F02220. NF: Your The Limit,
3. 10: 1. BIRCHWOOD SUN (K Derive) 72 ji far: 2. Scotthebury 7-2 ji far: 3. Our People 5-1 10 zm. 2. 6. (M Dods Deringlon). Rote:
5470; EUTO, EUTO, 5240, DF: 9430, CSF:
5423, NR: Carled Comm. Tho: \$420,
3.40: 1. RICCARTON (K Derive). 13-2: 2.
Munctan Tyres 9-1; 3. Golden Ace 7-2 ji far.
10 zm. 7-2 ji far. Doc Ryants. 174, 47 Calver,
Figor). Rote: 5530; S30; 5230, ETG. DF: 9390.
CSF: 56208. Tricast: 522266, This: E3790.

4.10: 1. BODFARI PRIDE (D Wight) 7-2: 2. Page The Reet 8-4 tex; 3. Bert's Gift 40-1 11 ram. 2, 11/s. (A Beiley, Terporley), Total: \$390; £160, £110, £470, DF: £510, CSF: £803, Tric:

2000. 2. JENNELLE (D Holand) 5-4 iav. 2. 4.40: 1. JENNELLE (D Holand) 5-4 iav. 2. Gold Edge 10-1; 3. O'Marif 9-1 6 ram. 1/s. shi-hd. (C Dwyse, Newmarked, Tobe: £190; £120, £120, DF: £1660, CSF: £243. Place 6: £7424. Place 5: £1483. WOLVERHAMPTON TY OLY CATTRONY : COTY
2.06 1. SYDNEY SAFEHANDS (J. Wesser)
11-6 i. inz. 2. Wanninas F.C. 11-6 i. inz. 3. Jackle's Baby 4-1.13 ran. 1%, 1. (k. Limmoden).
10te: £2.70; £150, £190, £160, £7. £810, CSF.
£95i. Tinz: \$580.
2.56: 1. ITALIAN SYMPHONY (M. A.

2.50: 1. ITALIAN SYMPHONY (by A Evens) 5-4 fay; 2. Beckhander 50-1; 3. Blushing Grenodier 9-4. 11 run. 4. stat-tic (P Evens) faits: 22(0; 2120, 0420, 2100 DF; 59470. CSF; 28478. If Top: 22080.
3.20: 1. MISS DANGEROUS (A Whelen) 7-1; 2. Summer Deel 10-1; 3. Heavenly Abstone 18-1, 10 Run. 11-4 fay Sorridar (4th). 4. ht. 04 Cuhn. ), Toke 58.70; 23.0; 25.00. CSF; 28700. Theast: 200740. The 27740.
3.50: 1. JUNIOR WUFFIN (Miss Benedley 18.00). 3.50: 1, JUNIOR MURTIN (Miss Sension

3.50: 1, JUNIOR WINFFIN (Mas Severley Kenciel) 3-1 it fav; 2. Desent Invasier 3-1 it fav; 2. Roevimotische Stud 14-1: 10 ran. 31/2, 2, 1) Berný, Toha: 53:00: \$200, E120, \$400. DF: £510. CSF: £100. Tido: £35:0: \$200, E120, \$400. DF: £511. 420: 1, DOUBLE OSCAR (Alex, Greaves) 13-2; 2, King of Peru 13-2; 3. Daawer 11-2, 13 ran. 7-2 fav. June, 11-1/4, 1/2, (D. Nichniel). Tota: £550; £340, £190, £240. DF: £39:20. CSF: £4228. Tricast: £530:5. Tric. £6740.

4.50: 1. HEATHYARDS SHEIK (A Mo-Carthy 7-4 ter; 2. Spring Beacon 12-1; 3. Lady Ell 36-1 13 ren. 7, 1. [P Hollinshead). Totae 12-70; 12-10, 04-70, 12-80, DF: 230-50. CSF: C3443, Trio: \$705-10, 12-80, DF: 230-50. CSF: C3443, Trio: \$705-10, 12-10, 2. Vincent 6-1; 3. Operatic 5-2. B ran. 4, smt-hd. (R Hofinshead), Tota: £1130; £370, £130. OF: £4720, CSF: £7301 NR: Secrecy. Placeport £3860. Grandport £3240.

Place 6: £50.79. Place 5: £37.90.



# Laid-back approach keeps Doherty on course

By Guy Hodgson at The Crucible, Sheffield

KEN DOHERTY says he is under pressure but you would be day and tomorrow. hard put to find evidence of it. Like David Gower, who looked World Championship as if an en-

emy's life depended on it.

semi-final against Mark Will- attitude I had last year," he said, who was probably as sober as a the incongruity of the situation. know it's there and you just have was sealed with two snookers year's win with an appearance in the final. He requires 11

His sang-froid, he maintains, is because he has achieved as though batting was merely an his life's ambition. He wanted extension to his social whirl, he to be world champion and inhas been playing at the Embassy stead of worrying about remaining there he is determined to enjoy the experience no mat-

iams yesterday and is seriously "and if it happens again it hapthreatening to follow up last pens, but if it doesn't it'll still have been a great year."

There are many sportsmen frames over three sessions to- who proclaim to being relaxed he was causing tripped over the who act on the field of play as people next to him. if they are trying get a part as

Doherty was just launching himself into a break when a dis- his retribution, but Doherty he established a 6-2 lead in his come with the same cavalier crowd. A silver-haired man, stroke, looked up and smiled at You've won on the big stage, you ry with a long shot and the latter ponent who did not get up his ly to be exchanged.

judge but gave the impression There is only a first prize of to wait for it to come out." he could give newts a lesson in drinking, suddenly got up and, seemingly oblivious to the chaos last year," Doherty said. "Tve

Colin Montgomerie would the T Rex in Jurassic Park, but have given him a stare worthy year than I have in previous sea-Doherty is not one of them. of Medusa if someone had sons even if I'm not firing on all That was evident in his second done that while he was over a putt, while Seve Ballesteros would still be rotting in jail for beat. ter how temporary it is. "Tve turbance broke out in the merely broke off from his

£220,000 at stake, after all.

"I'm not playing as well as performing only in patches. But I feel more complete this cylinders. In different ways I am and the champion swooped. better. I'm tougher, harder to

It emerged with a flourish yesterday, Doberty beginning with a breaks of 42 and 45 for the first will be a long way back for the struggled in all three games, frame and then winning safety exchanges for a 3-1 lead. The fifth frames and eighth frames were herty said, "I'm taking each pivotal, however, as Williams session as it comes. There's still missed chances to seal them -

In the former Doherty had to clear the colours to take it to lighted with the start I've made." "Getting through that pain a re-spotted black, which he potbarrier last year is important. ted when Williams went for glo-

and a break of 25 after the challenger missed a relatively easy yellow into a corner pocket. It man from Cwm, Wales, now.

"To use an old cliché," Doan awfully long way to go in the match, and Mark is a dangerous opponent, but naturally I'm de-

Nevertheless, Williams will have been glad to meet an op-

in the quarter-finals. "A pain in the neck," was among the descriptions he used for his beaten opponent, because he objected to the over-enthusias-

tic celebrations when he won an early tight frame. "I laughed when he did that," Williams said. "I couldn't see why you'd react like that at that stage. He was so slow in the first session it was boring and

some of the crowd walked out."

Christmas cards are unlike-

# Shearer: 'I did not kick Neil Lennon'

#### Football

By Adam Szreter

ALAN SHEARER, the England captain, yesterday attempted to play down the latest incident in a season dogged by controversy to really tug my left foot free and by insisting that he did not intend to kick Leicester City's Neil Lennon in the face during Wednesday night's goalless draw with Newcastle United, despite

weeks to go to the start of the World Cup, questions are in- a fellow professional." evitably being asked about Shearer's frame of mind as he fights to ensure Newcastle during a season in which his er: "I don't know how Shearer United's Premiership survival while gearing himself up for pins" image has gradually givthe biggest test of his life in en way to a more cynical and

his assistant apparently missed manager, Martin O'Neill, said the touchline fracas, but Shear- after Wednesday's game. er may still face disciplinary acenforceable for two weeks, so unless a ban is imposed tomor- Shearer swung round and the for the FA Cup final between There was no malice, no intent Newcastle and Arsenal on 16

May.

"We're waiting to receive the but not like that." match official's report before we decide what to do," the FA spokesman, Steve Double, said. "At this stage what course of action we take is totally dependent on that." The referee seems unlikely to report an incident over which he took no action, but despite the spokesman's comments, the FA is still entitled to react to video evidence.

"I have now seen the televi-

I am amazed how bad it looks looked on television like a kick.

fact that Neil is virtually unmarked confirms this. If I did never try and deliberately hurt

problems on and off the field model-professional "Mary Popchurlish approach. "I don't care Shearer escaped immediate whether you are Alan Shearer,

just fell. Lennon pulled him, as far as I know. I've never seen

competitive, but not like that." However, last Saturday, Shearer was accused by Tottenham's David Ginola of setting out to persistently foul the former Newcastle winger in the relegation match at White Hart Lane, and yesterday the Spurs manager, Christian Gross, claimed Shearer had broken the nose of Tottenham's Ramon Vega with his elbow in the secsion pictures of the incident and ond minute of the game.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

25 Shelves packed with

stack (9)

alloy (8)

rum Tykes (8)

timental kind? (6)

recipe books (7)

Young chap, accepting church, is fortified (5)

27 Unusual amount of cash 9

invested in City, endless

False diamond is form of 21

Easily broken down by

Pursue wagon turning up

real FBI grilling (7)

into walled area (9)

He'll be swearing next!

A knee injury in a pre-seaby comparison to what actual- son tournament kept Shearer ly happened," Shearer said yes- out of action until January of terday. "I was brought down by this year, but soon after his re-Neil Lennon over by the touch- turn he became embroiled in a line and we both fell clumsily. bitter verbal battle with players As I tried to get to my feet I had of non-League Stevenage Borough during the fourth-round the momentum of doing this FA Cup-tie with Newcastle. Three weeks later he incurred "It certainly wasn't and the the wrath of the Leeds manager, George Graham, who said: "When Shearer marked [Jimtelevision evidence to the contrary. accidentally catch him, I cer- my-Floyd] Hasselbaink at cor-However, with less than six tainly did not mean to. I would ners it was almost like assault." A fortnight later Barnsley's ellow professional." Danny Wilson was complaining Shearer has been beset by sent off for two fouls on Shear-

gets away with some of the things he does," Wilson said. "It's not the first time he's been criticised and not the first time the criticism has been punishment at Filbert Street as or The Pope, you don't do wrong," Dalglish added. "If referee Martin Bodenham and things like that," the Leicester you go through the video against Barnsley you will see that every tackle on him was a His Newcastle counterpart, foul. Moses was unlucky to be tion by the Football Association. Kenny Dalglish, defended his sent off but it was not Alan who Any suspension would not be £15m striker: "The two of them was dictating what happened. He doesn't hand out the punishment. He only wants to be row Shearer will still be eligible momentum took him over. treated as an equal. He doesn't want preferential treatment, but he doesn't want to be punished because of who he is."

In between times there was an alleged punch-up with his own team-mate Keith Gillespie outside a Dublin pub, but Shearer returned to England duty last month with two goals against Portugal at Wembley, underlining his importance to the side.

England supporters will be hoping that Shearer's renowned single-mindedness will enable him to ignore distractions. Glenn Hoddle will be hoping so too. Loveable Arsenal, page 30

6 Better bridge players will

make points (5)
Issues absorbing the Eu-

ropean academics (7)
A touching individual (6)

The kind of listener asso-

ciated with The Ring?

em state's decline (9)

field of hay, perhaps (8)

Hearten a revolutionary with unqualified rising

19 Bees arranged by trendy

(5,2) 22 English learner entering

24 Game opener's out, get-

ting top edge (5)

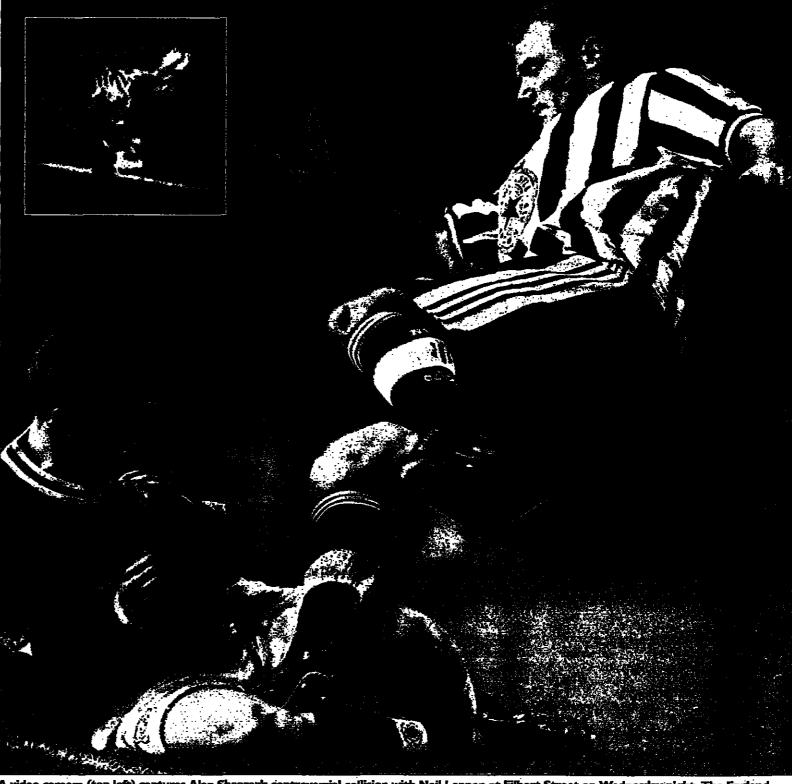
parties (7)

stiff exam (6)

(11,3)

28 Army group made up of 16 A period including East-

29 Little bird book of a sen- 17 Mow down (and stack) a



A video camera (top left) captures Alan Shearer's controversial collision with Neil Lennon at Filbert Street on Wednesday night. The England captain, despite apparent evidence to the contrary, denies kicking the Leicester player

# Bergkamp in battle to be fit for Cup final

**By Mark Burton** 

DENNIS BERGKAMP could be out until the FA Cup final be- the club's record-breaking strikcause of his hamstring trouble er is given the chance to add to - but the Dutchman's loss looks his 12 goals in nine previous like being Ian Wright's gain.

Bergkamp has already been having ice treatment on the in- chance of going to the World jury. Arsenal's manager, Arsène Cup finals with England. Wenger, said that in a couple of judge if the Dutchman, who of being fit in time to face Newcastle at Wembley on 16 May.

out with a similar injury, is win over Liverpool. gearing up to make his return

to action against Everton on Stuart Ripley home to Mid-Sunday, when Arsenal's could clinch the Premiership title. If a £1.5m summer transfer. Ripgames against the Merseysiders, it would provide a boost to his

Gianfranco Zola could miss days' time it should be easier to Chelsea's European Cup-Winners' Cup final against Stuttgart picked up the problem by over- in Stockholm on 13 May. The stretching during Wednesday's striker is in his native Italy hopvictory over Derby, has a chance ing a trusted medical specialist can make him fit in time for the final, after he damaged a groin Wright, out for four months muscle during last Saturday's 4-1

Bryan Robson wants to bring bilitation programme.

dlesbrough from Blackburn in ley has dropped out of Blackburn's first team, having earlier been in the England squad.

Steve McManaman is to be left out of Liverpool's team for the first time this season when they play West Ham at Anfield, on Saturday, because of a niggling ankle problem.

Shane Nicholson is to appeal against his sacking by West Bromwich following his admission that he had been a frequent user of amphetamines for several years. On Tuesday, Nicholson was ordered by the Football Association to attend a reha-

# Walker leaves Carrow Road

man after his second spell in charge at Norwich City came to

an end yesterday. The former Everton manager left the struggling First Division club, which he once took into Europe, by "mutual consent" according to the board of directors - but Walker implied he had been sacked.

Norwich, who are 16th in the table, ended their relegation fears by recording 5-0 victories in their last two home games, but before that they had gone 14 games without a win.

Carrow Road in June 1996 fol- club plenty of time to find a lowing his first successful spell replacement who could take at the club, still stood by his them back to the Premiership. record. "I am bitterly disap-

pointed, to say the least," he said. "They have decided to make a decision which is their prerogative and, at the end of the day, that's the way it is. I think I have worked bard under right manager able to deliver trying circumstances this year, but the decision has been made. Whoever comes in is going to

be a reasonably lucky man." The Canaties vice-chairman, Roger Munby, claimed against Reading on Sunday.

Walker, who returned to Walker had gone now to give the

"We chose this timing, the earliest possible time, to give ourselves the best possible chance of setting out with the right recruitment policy," he said. "We want to deliver the our number one objective - the Premiership."

The assistant manager, John Faulkner, will take charge of team affairs for their final game

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with waggish mind (8) 20 Most of spread includes 5 joint and drink (5;

Damage excellent unit

Clear-cut remedy (8)

ing beginner in theatre

10 Prompt has copy cover-

11 Fénced with the Parisian

in protective wear (5)

12 Revolutionary piece gets

13 Available now, or forth-

provides for theatre (5) 1 15 Devilish mate, sacrificing

18 Last entertainer's imbued 3

queen, is hard to follow 2

spoken about (7)

14 Shakespeare naturally

coming? (2.5)